Cotton Growing in Brazil

In accordance with decisions made at Zurich Conference of International Federation of Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers last June, and meeting of International Cotton Committee in November, A. S. Pearse, general secretary of Federation, has left Manchester to make a tour through cotton-growing districts of Brazil in order to report upon present state of cotton-growing industry there and its possibilities. He will be accompanied by two Swiss members of the Federation. Mission has been organized by special invitation of Federal Government of Brazil, which is keenly interested in promoting cotton growing in that country. North of Brazil is said to be capable of growing long-staple cotton almost equal to best varieties in Egypt. Head of Brazilian Government's Cotton Department will accompany the party on tour. (Manchester Guardian, March 9)

Cotton Growing in the British Empire

The Manchester Guardian for March 9, in a review of a paper by Mr. J. W. Connell, Chairman of the Fine Cotton Spinners' and Doublers' Association, before the Royal Colonial Institution in London, gives an outline of the plan of the Empire Cotton Growing Committee.

Fertilizers

Calcium cyanide factories engaged in the production of nitrogen fertilizers by process of fixation of atmospheric nitrogen were in operation before the war, but during the war these plants were extensively enlarged and are now in process of completion, H. W. Adams, representative of Department of Commerce in Berlin, reported January 10. The total output of these plants when properly supplied with coal is estimated at 600,000 tons, with a nitrogen content of 120,000 tons. (Commerce Reports, March 21)

Freight Rates

Railroad rates of agricultural limestone and raw rock phosphate, fertilizers used by Illinois farmers, have reached a point almost prohibitive for farmer's use, according to the statement of a conference called by Illinois Agricultural Association of Farm Advisers, representatives of other farmers' organizations, and limestone and phosphate producing companies. (Rock Products, March 12)

Futures

" 'Hedging' and the Futures Markets" is title of article by Rollin E. Smith in Wallace's Farmer for March 18.

Grain Market

Ozark Countryman (March 15) points out that "the displacement of horses in the last ten years has destroyed an annual market for 113,000,000 bushels of oats, 70,000,000 bushels of corn, and 4,750,000 tons of hay. This means more than the average total export a year on these items."
(Contributed by Bureau Animal Industry)

Labor

The semi-monthly crop notes of the Bureau of Crop Estimates for March 15 indicate that farm labor is plentiful throughout the country.
(Contributed by Bur. Crop Estimates)

Legislation

1. The Indiana Legislature has passed a bill establishing a Board of Agriculture. The Board will consist of 16 members, one to be selected from each congressional district in the state and the remaining members to be appointed by the Governor. In addition, it is provided that the Governor and the Dean of Agriculture of Purdue University shall be ex-officio members.
(Contributed by Bur. Crop Estimates)

2. A bill has been introduced in the legislature in Kansas to abolish the State Board of Agriculture and the numerous other boards and commissions such as the Weather Commission, State Board of Fair Managers, State Horticultural Commission, etc., and to establish in their place a Department of Agriculture under a Commissioner of Agriculture whose term of office will be two years.
(Contributed by Bur. Crop Estimates)

3. "Farm Legislation in the Iowa Assembly", is title of article in Wallace's Farmer for March 18. It states that the legislative forces which are interested in securing needed legislation for farmers are getting together on a better working basis than at beginning of session. Points out as most important bills for farmers' support: The measure which provides for organization of non-profit, non-stock companies; the bill which provides for bonded warehouses of agricultural products; amendments to banking and corporation laws which permit of organization of a farm credit corporation; a uniform seed bill; hog cholera serum bill; spur track bill, and the bills relating to land titles, collective bargaining, and the gathering of agricultural statistics.

Live Stock Statistics

A statistical investigation is being made in the Bureau of Crop Estimates to determine the degree of comparability of the Census live stock statistics of April 15, 1910, with those of January 1, 1920. The difference in date between the two Censuses involves quite a difference in the relative number of young animals on hand; hence the value of determining a basis for comparing one census report with the other. (Contributed by Bur. Crop Estimates)

Marketing

"To Cooperate or not to Cooperate", is title of editorial by Samuel O. Rice, Editor, in Capper's Farmer for April. This reviews the development of the more important cooperative movements, and says: "Never before have farmers of any country started out on so great an enterprise as have the farmers of America today; there is not a line in agriculture today that is not organized or organizing for better marketing. * * * It is the hour for cooperation among farmers, to rid themselves of the commercial abuses that have crippled and hindered rural development".

Prices

1. The Monthly Crop Reporter for March, 1921, contains a chart with statistics showing the trend of prices of things which farmers buy, compared with the prices of the produce they sell. The chart shows quite an increase in the prices the farmers paid in 1920 compared with 1919, and a decrease in the prices of the produce they sold in 1920 compared with the previous year. (Contributed by Bur. Crop Estimates)

2. "Psychology and Price Trends" is title of editorial in The Agricultural Review for March 1921. A table is presented which gives January prices of principal commodities for past seven years in percentages.

Wool

Trading in wool is slowing up somewhat, but price variations both here and abroad are negligible, according to Commerce and Finance for March 23.

Department of Agriculture

1. "A Secretary with a Program" is title of editorial in The Agricultural Review for March.

2. "The New Secretary of Agriculture", is title of editorial in Western Farmer for March 15.

3. "Packer Strike Hint Rapped by Wallace", is title of article in Denver Daily Record Stockman for March 19.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Vol. 1, no. 2 March 25,1921.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

"The workers in the packing trade gracefully yielded when three Cabinet secretaries agreed that they should accept the reduced pay which the employers offered. It is a useful precedent. The employers in turn yielded the eight-hour day which the men pressed for. Both concessions offer hope of lower costs of production, and perhaps also increased production. *** The new administration is to be congratulated on the result of its first labor intervention."
(Editorial in New York Times, March 25.)

The Pennsylvania Railroad has reorganized its entire freight service, placing it on regular schedule. It includes "through freight movement of all perishable freight, such as fresh meat and vegetables, livestock and nonperishable merchandise, and a somewhat slower movement for mineral traffic and all other freight". (Philadelphia Public Ledger, March 25.)

Cotton

1. Attitude of banks of Georgia and analysis of existing conditions respecting last year's unsold cotton and the crop now being cultivated is reflected in answers to questionnaire sent to every bank in state by Georgia Bankers' Association. Disclosures are regarded as reassuring. They lend unquestioned proof to impression that farmers throughout the state are reducing acreage and using less fertilizer than in former years. Many farmers continue to hold last year's crop. (Journal of Commerce, March 24.)

2. Cotton trade of the Netherlands is reviewed by Consul Anderson, at Rotterdam, in Commerce Reports for March 24.

Dairy

"The Zero Hour for American Agriculture", is the title of an article in Dairy Farmer for March 15 in regard to Treasury Department rulings no. 3120 and 3122 on butter.

Food Exports

"Effects on American Agriculture of Changes in the Exports of Food", is the title of a short article in the Standard Daily Trade Service for March 26, which states that any country weak both in productive power and in credit tends to shift its food consumption over from meats to cereals and from proteids to fats. Our exports of beef have suffered heavily. Cereal products are suffering less in price than beef, and hogs than cattle.

Freight Rates — "More Than the Traffic Will Bear", is the title of an article in the California Cultivator for March 19 on the effect on the fruit industry of California of the advance in freight rates.

Grain Exchanges — Senator Norris of Nebraska, who is to be chairman of Senate Agriculture Committee, said March 23 he planned to introduce at special session of Congress a bill to regulate future trading on grain exchanges. (Journal of Commerce for March 24.)

Land Tax — "Ralston-Nolan Land Tax Bill" is title of the leading article, by Prof. S. Howard Patterson, in the Pennsylvania Farmer for March 26.

Lemon Industry in Italy — "Crisis in the Italian Lemon Industry", is title of short article in Commerce Reports for March 23.

Lumber — Statistical survey covering operations of 3,410 plants of the lumber industry of Canada for calendar year 1919, as issued by Dominion Bureau of Statistics, appears in Canada Lumberman for March 15.

Nuts — "Walnut Growers Sitting on Top of the World", is title of an article in the Daily Produce News, Seattle for March 19 on the favorable outlook for California walnut growers for the 1921 season.

Phosphate — Analysis of thick bed of phosphate discovered 40 feet below surface in oil well drilling 20 miles west of San Antonio, Texas, shows high commercial value, says Wall Street Journal for March 25.

Potatoes — "Plant Normal Acreage of Potatoes this Season", is title of an article in Western Farm Life for March 15, based on interview with Lou D. Sweet.

Prices and Export Trade — The effect of rising prices on the export trade of the United States is shown in comprehensive report by John Hohn, Chief, Division of Statistics, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, in Commerce Reports for March 21.

Tariff — A comprehensive plan for securing and publishing tariff information by securing cooperation of organizations of chemists and chemical men has been developed by Dr. B.C. Hesse. This work will comprise continuation and amplification of the "Summary of Tariff Information", compiled in 1920 under direction of Congress. (Journal of Commerce for March 24.)

Tariff on Hides — The Shoe and Leather Reporter for March 24 says that if a duty is placed on hides as an emergency expedient in all probability it will take years of hard educational work to get the duty off again. The live stock men obtained higher prices for cattle during the years when hides were free of duty than they ever received when there was a tariff of 15 per cent on hides. A tariff on hides will add nothing to the prosperity of the stockmen today or in the future, but they could not choose a time when there would be less opposition on the part of the tanners.

Tobacco

The Burley tobacco situation in Kentucky is reviewed by J.W. Newman in Farmers Home Journal for March 10. He states that probably never before in fifty years' history of Burley tobacco production has situation in this industry been more chaotic. Practically all profits made during the last few years of plenty have been lost in the production of the 1920 Burley tobacco crop. Obligations that cannot be met are facing thousands of growers. The decline in price of Burley from around 40 cents a pound to around 10 cents a pound within a year is responsible for all these adverse conditions.

Tobacco Marketing

A meeting of leaders of tobacco and farming industry in Louisville on March 29 is announced by the executive committee of the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation. Representatives from all tobacco producing states are expected to attend in effort to evolve a solution to the tobacco marketing problem. (Farmers Home Journal, March 10.)

Vegetable Oils

"Trade of Belgium in Vegetable Oils and Vegetable Oil Material", is title of statement giving statistics on imports and exports of vegetable oils and vegetable oil material by Belgium during years 1913, and 1920, in Commerce Reports for March 24.

Wages

International Harvester officials, commenting on the cut of wages just announced, explain that reductions running from 5 per cent to 20 per cent affecting 45,000 employees, is graded according to advances granted during war period and based upon analysis of cost of living. (Wall Street Journal, March 25.)

Wheat Pool

Editorial on "Pooling Wheat" in Wall Street Journal for Mar.24 says: "If the hopes of the Kansas branch of the National Wheat Growers' Association succeed wheat prices will be rendered stable and farmers will receive a larger price for their product. The aim is desirable and the whole country will wish it well, but in its accomplishment there are grim parallels in history and even in classic legend".

Wheat Prices

"Australia cuts wheat prices to meet North American competition as board controlling prices of export wheat reduces rate for East Africa and certain islands to 9 shillings 11 pence a bushel", says Melbourne dispatch to London Times. (Wall Street Journal, March 24.)

Wool

"The Australian Wool Plan", is title of article in The National Wool Grower for March. This says in part: "Under the scheme approved by the conference, if it is agreed to by the British authorities, the sale of the remainder of the wool will be surrendered by Britain, political interference will be eliminated, both in Australia and in London, and the disposal of the wool will be placed in the hands of a directorate appointed by the Australian growers."

Wool Pool

Sheepmen from all parts of Utah, bankers and other business men vitally connected with the success of wool industry in Utah have gone on record as favoring formation of pool to include the greater part of Utah's 1921 clip, according to dispatch to Wall Street Journal for March 24.

Department of Agriculture

1. "Secretary Wallace"is title of editorial in Western Farm Life for March 15.

2. "Henry C. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture", is title of editorial in the National Wool Grower for March.

3. "A Farm Bureau Pioneer: C.B. Smith as a Real Friend of the Organization", is title of article in The County Agent and Farm Bureau for March.

4. The Washington Herald of March 23 quotes statistics as compiled by the Bureau of Standards, giving the number of employees in the different branches of the Federal service in the fiscal year 1916, as compared with the fiscal year 1921. The Department of Agriculture is shown to have had in Washington in 1920 4,684 employees, or just 14 more than in 1916. Outside of Washington the number of Department of Agriculture employees increased 4 per cent.

Additions to Library

Annuaire général de la France et de l'étranger. 1920-21.
Dalgety's annual wool review for Australasia. 22d year. 1919/20.
Deutsches Kolonial-Lexikon. 3 v. Leipzig, 1920.
International Labour Conference. Third session. Geneva, Oct.,1921. Agricultural questions: Second item of the agenda.
Morrell, R.S., and Waele, A. de. Rubber, resins, paints and varnishes. London, 1921.
Oklahoma. State Market Commission. 2d biennial report, 1919-20.
U. S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Miscellaneous Series No. 106. Trade of the United States with the World, 1918-1919. Part 2 - Exports. Washington, 1921.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Vol. 1, no.3 March 26, 1921.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Plans for a survey of world production and consumption and the gathering of figures on visible stocks of all commodities are under consideration by Federal officials. The Department of Commerce is now trying to obtain the figures on cotton and leather. The program has been approved by President Harding as a result of representations made by cotton producers, and has been passed on to Secretary Hoover to develop.

Prompt results in distributing the $2,000,000 appropriated by Congress for loans to farmers in drought-stricken areas in the Northwest with which to buy seed grain were reported yesterday by representatives in charge of the work at Fargo, North Dakota.

Thousands of Arkansas land owners are facing financial ruin as a result of the enactment of a series of so-called good roads laws, according to Governor Thomas C. McRae, who in conversation March 25 with a correspondent of the New York Times denounced them as a particularly vicious system of special taxation.

Under these laws, which in Arkansas are known as "road improvement" district laws, road commissioners have been vested with complete authority, the Governor said, and have been able to bond road districts in all sections of the state to the point of financial disaster to the land owners. (Leading article in New York Times, March 26.)

American Corn in Mexico

American corn is being sold in Chihuahua, Mexico, for the first time in five or six years, according to the American Consul there. Present prices indicate that corn will be brought to Mexico for some time. (American Elevator & Grain Trade, March 15)

Cooperative Marketing

1. Fruit growers of the Wenatchee Valley of Washington are making a campaign to contract 4,000 carloads of the 1921 crop in a new cooperative marketing association, according to the California Cultivator for March 19.

2. An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for March 25, entitled "Cooperation and Knowledge", says: "Cooperation is not something to be adopted and accepted, but rather something to be learned and acted. Countries with the most successful cooperative enterprises have had the greatest obstacles to overcome".

Cost of Production

"The cost of raising grain" is the title of an article by P.S. Goodman in the American Elevator & Grain Trade for March 15, which attempts to extend the cost of production tables published in the "admirable" Crop Reporter.

Cotton

1. Philadelphia Public Ledger for March 25 states that the Louisiana cotton grower will cut the cotton acreage of that state in half and a reduction of acreage in Texas of from 35 to 40 per cent is expected. Alabama and Tennessee farmers also will cut cotton acreage this year.

2. "Recent investigation by the Georgia Bankers' Association reveals a number of interesting facts in the unusual situation on the cotton farms of that state", says an editorial under title "The Cotton Farmers' Program", in The Journal of Commerce for March 25. It states that the feeling among financial interests is apparently that with a considerable volume of commitments on last year's crop still outstanding and in view of the depressed condition of the market the financing of another large crop of cotton would be unsafe.

Cotton Marketing

Farm and Ranch for March 26 contains editorial under title, "Producers Must Become Cotton Merchants". Stating that unless the producer wants the crop to pass into the hands of a new set of cotton merchants and speculators who will control the price, they will have to hold it themselves through their own marketing organizations and in their own warehouses.

Dyes

1. It is predicted among the dyestuff producers that the coming campaign for enactment of a suitable protective measure for the industry will be conducted along somewhat different lines than the former campaign. Dye producers feel that the reason why favorable action was not taken during the last Congress was largely a matter of a misunderstanding as to the needs of the dyestuff industry and the necessity for a dye industry. (Journal of Commerce, March 25)

2. Large stocks of chemical products are held by German dealers at trade centers like Berlin, Hanover, Frankfurt and Hamburg, but prices have dropped rapidly owing to the limited export demand, according to a correspondent for Drug and Chemical Markets for March 23.

Federal Feedingstuffs Law

Several millers and feed manufacturers representing the Millers' National Federation, Grain Dealers National Association, and the United States Feed Distributors Association, met in Chicago recently to formulate national trade rules and regulations governing contracts in feeding stuffs. Those present at Chicago went on record as favoring the enactment of a uniform federal feedingstuffs law.
(Federal Trade Information Service, March 24)

Fertilizer

"A Revival of Interest in Gypsum as a Fertilizer", is title of article by E.W. Olive, Ph. D., of Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, New York, in The County Agent and Farm Bureau for March. It states that gypsum has been found to be one of the best of the several forms of sulphur fertilizers tried.

Freight Rates

Water shipments of vegetables are being made at New York from the port of Los Angeles at the rate of 65 cents per hundred, as compared with rail rate of $1.66 1/2, according to the California Cultivator for March 19.

Future Trading

Representatives of leading grain exchanges met in Chicago March 24 to consider legislation which has been enacted or is pending in several states on the subject of marketing. President Griffin of Chicago Board of Trade said that a committee would be appointed to make a survey and report. Leaders of the grain trade declared that legislation prohibiting trading in contracts for future delivery would destroy the economic functions of the grain exchanges. (Journal of Commerce, March 25)

Land Banks

"The Survival of the Fittest" is the title of an editorial in Farm and Ranch for March 26, which says in part: "Now that the farm mortgage companies have been defeated in their efforts to have the act creating the Federal Land Banks and the Joint Stock Land Banks declared unconstitutional, there is a move on foot to put the Joint Stock Land Banks out of business. *** If the Joint Stock Land Banks, created by the same act of Congress which brought into being the Federal Land Banks, can render the service for which both were authorized more quickly, economically and conveniently than can the Federal Land Banks, they should not be legislated out of business."

Legislation

1. Word has just been received that the bill seeking to establish a Department of Agriculture in Kansas to supersede the present State Board of Agriculture has been defeated.

2. A law has just been passed in the North Carolina Legislature providing for an annual Agricultural Census to be made by assessors. The work involved has for the past two years been performed voluntarily by the assessors. Their action in this respect contrasts markedly with many states wherein laws requiring such agricultural censuses are ineffective because of the opposition of the assessors.

Livestock

"Inflated Pure Breds?", is the title of an article in the Swine World for March 20, in reply to a series of articles on the same subject in The Country Gentleman.

Muscle Shoals Project

If any industrial organization will guarantee the government a fair return on its investment at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, Secretary Weeks, chairman of the Federal Power Commission, will recommend that the additional $30,000,000 necessary to complete the project be appropriated, he announced yesterday. (Washington Post, March 26)

Price Control

Owing to the price of flour fixed by the price commissioner for country mills, it is announced in Brisbane, Queensland, as highly probable that the smooth working of the lately created wool pool will be jeopardized. (Northwestern Miller, March 16)

Prices

"How Shall Grain be Marketed?", is the title of an article by Philip S. Rose in The Country Gentleman for March 26. He expresses the opinion that the farmer must be given an equal voice with the buyer in making the price.

Sugar Prices

The Cuban Sugar Finance Commission has been functioning for several weeks and gradually has increased the price of raw sugar from about three cents a pound to about five cents a pound f. o. b. Cuba, the quotation on March 23. It is indicated that that is about as high as the commission will undertake to fix prices.
(Federal Trade Information Service, March 24)

Surtax on Cereals

No export duties in addition to those assessed monthly will be imposed on cereals from Argentina, provided that proof is furnished that such cereals have been purchased at a price not lower than the minimum prices fixed and announced weekly by the Department of the Treasury, according to a cablegram received from Commercial Attache Feely at Buenos Aires. The export surtax was lifted by presidential decree in an effort to maintain prices and prevent speculation.
(Federal Trade Information Service, March 24)

Tariff

Mexican import duties on cotton will be increased 10 per cent April 30, according to official advice to Department of Commerce.
(Washington Herald, March 26)

Tariff on Lemon By-products

Editorial entitled "Tragedy of the Lemon" in California Cultivator for March 19 asks for tariff not simply on the fruit but also on such by-products as citric acid and oil

Wages

Sheepmen of Western Nevada have set a new wage scale for employees, according to Pacific Rural Press for March 19. The scale made provides for herders at $70.00 per month as a maximum; new men, $60.00 per month as a maximum. Shearers' wages are to be eleven cents per head with board.

Water Power

A committee of electric power executives asked the Federal Water-Power Commission yesterday to revise certain portions of the regulations for development of power under the new water-power law which were promulgated by the old commission just before it went out of office on March 4.
(New York Times, March 26)

Wind Power

The Danish foreign office Journal for February has an article on some interesting Danish experiments with wind power. A cheap and effective method of accumulating energy has been devised by the use of wind mills and "results are looked forward to with eager anxiety".

Wool

1. "The demand for wool has increased during the week, manufacturers apparently being convinced that the emergency tariff will be passed in the not distant future and deeming it wise to cover some of their needs, at least, now", says the Commercial Bulletin for March 26.

2. Three and a half million pounds of the Canadian wool clip for 1920 have been marketed at satisfactory prices through the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers, while from 75 to 90 per cent of the world supply is still in the hands of producers. (Washington Herald, March 25)

Wool Decontrolled

The Australian Commonwealth has released wool from control, as from February 16. (Federal Trade Information Service, March 24)

Department of Agriculture

Reorganization of departments along many lines is being discussed by Government officials. Some of them have suggested that the Department of Commerce take over from the Department of Agriculture the Bureau of Public Roads and the Bureau of Markets. The farmer naturally feels that his interests are considered paramount in the Department of Agriculture and he will not favor such a change unless vital reasons are advanced.
(American Farm Bureau Federation Weekly News Letter No.11)

Department of Commerce

Former Secretary of Commerce Redfield issued a statement of his views on the necessity of reorganizing the Department of Commerce which was published in the Federal Trade Information Service for March 24. He approved Secretary Hoover's plans and stated that the Department of Commerce should dominate the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Federal Trade Commission and other bodies dealing with commerce and should bear the same relation to commerce that the Department of Agriculture does to the country's agriculture.

New books Added to Library

Bowden-Smith, E.C. Oil firing for kitchen ranges and steam boilers. London, 1920.

Brues, G.T. Insects and human welfare. Cambridge, Mass., 1920.

Haas, Paul, and Hill, T.G. An introduction to the chemistry of plant products. 3d ed. v. 1, London, New York, 1920.

Hamor, W.A., and Padgett, F.W. The technical examination of crude petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas. New York, 1920.

Harrow, Benjamin. Vitamines, essential food factors. New York,[1921]

Southward, A.E. Eritrea; a Red Sea Italian colony of increasing interest to American commerce. 1920. (U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Foreign & Domestic Commerce. Special consular report no. 82)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 4

March 28, 1921.

Washington Herald in editorial this morning suggests that Commissioner of Immigration Husband form a cooperative alliance with American consular agents to tell the would-be immigrant the exact truth regarding the acquisition of farm land in this country, in connection with his allotment and training scheme for foreign peasants, who are "essentially farmers".

Declaring that "the railroads are prepared to show that wages in all industries are tending downward", the Association of Railway Executives yesterday published tables of figures to show the decline in the cost of living and the ratio of railway wages to railway income during the last five years. (New York Times, March 28.)

"It is generally expected that the farmer will sell new wheat freely where he can secure $1 per bushel and over at country loading points, and the harvest promises to be unusually early", says the New York Times today.

Arizona Crops

Arizona is the only state in the West where an unpromising condition exists, says crop survey of Philadelphia Public Ledger, March 26. Weather of fall and winter was abnormally dry, affecting stock raisers adversely.

Belgian Agriculture

The work of restoration begain in 1919 when the Department of Agriculture procured potato plants, flax, wheat, and oat seed for the occupants of restored lands. The restoration of 130,963 acres out of 197,680 acres is now assured. Journal de la Societe Nationale des Agriculteurs de Belgique, Feb. 26.

British Meat Trade

Review of the 1920 British Frozen Meat Trade, just issued by W. Weddel & Co., Ltd., London, appears in The Butchers' Advocate for March 23.

Cattle for Germany

Appeal was made March 26 to Secretary Wallace by Hanford C. Macnider, of Mason City, Iowa, Commander of the Iowa Department of the American Legion, to prevent the shipment from the Atlantic seaboard of a contribution of 600 milch cows, which are being sent by South Dakota Germans to Germany.
(New York Times, March 28.)

Child Labor on the Farm

World's Work for April contains an editorial on "Child Labor on the Farm". This states that the Investigations of the National Child Labor Committee show how vital are the problems of the rural child and assert there are practically no state or national laws pertaining to child labor on the farm.

Cooperative Banking

"The Farmer and Cooperative Banking" is title of article on the principles and practice of cooperative banking in the Wisconsin Farmer for March 17 and 24, by Frederic C. Howe, Executive Secretary of the Committee on Banking Credit of the All-American Farm-Labor Cooperative Commission. The object of the committee is to promote new banking agencies for farmers. It prepares bills for cooperative banks and credit unions to submit to the State legislatures.

Cooperative Marketing

"Proper Financing of Cooperatives", is the title of an article by G. Harold Powell, General Manager, California Fruit Growers' Exchange, in The Michigan Farmer for March 19, which strongly emphasizes need of sound business methods.

Cost of Production

Editorial on "Cost of Producing Corn in 1921", in Wallace's Farmer for March 25, estimates that the average cost of producing an acre of corn in the twelve north central states in 1921 will in all probability be around $22.

Dairy Products Pool

Article under title, "An Iowa Pooling System", by Carl N. Kennedy, in Wallace's Farmer for March 25, reviews the organization of the Milk Producers' Association, as developed by farmers around Iowa.

Fertilizer Prices

The work done by the Producers' Cooperative Exchange, Inc., of Richmond, Va., has resulted in a new schedule of prices for fertilizers that went into effect March 15. (Herald-Progress, Ashland, Va., March 25)

Forestry

P. L. Buttrick, Assistant Professor of Forestry, Michigan Agricultural College, discusses the Snell forestry bill, in The Michigan Farmer for March 19. Believes that the bill should go a long way towards alleviating the timber shortage.

French Agriculture

The Ministry of the liberated regions has classified the French devasted area in three zones: blue zone, land requiring a simple clearing; yellow zone, land requiring important reconstruction work; and red zone, land in which the cost of reconstruction will exceed considerably the value of the land. Statistics show that in August, 1920, 4,003,020 acres had been cleared and that there still remains 494,200 acres in the red zone to be restored. Journal d'Agriculture Pratique, Feb. 26. ~~(Contributed by Bur. of Crop Estimates)~~

Fruit Growing

"Fruit Growers Cooperate with M.A.C.", is the title of an article in the Michigan Farmer for March 19 describing a plan recently adopted by which fruit growers of Michigan will help plan the experiments of the Michigan Agricultural College station.

Grain Marketing

W.G. Eckhardt, Director of the Grain Marketing Department of the Illinois Agricultural Association and Treasurer of the Committee of

Child Labor on the Farm

World's Work for April contains an editorial on "Child Labor on the Farm". This states that the Investigations of the National Child Labor Committee show how vital are the problems of the rural child and assert there are practically no state or national laws pertaining to child labor on the farm.

Cooperative Banking

"The Farmer and Cooperative Banking" is title of article on the principles and practice of cooperative banking in the Wisconsin Farmer for March 17 and 24, by Frederic C. Howe, Executive Secretary of the Committee on Banking Credit of the All-American Farm-Labor Cooperative Commission. The object of the committee is to promote new banking agencies for farmers. It prepares bills for cooperative banks and credit unions to submit to the State legislatures.

Cooperative Marketing

"Proper Financing of Cooperatives", is the title of an article by G. Harold Powell, General Manager, California Fruit Growers' Exchange, in The Michigan Farmer for March 19, which strongly emphasizes need of sound business methods.

Cost of Production

Editorial on "Cost of Producing Corn in 1921", in Wallace's Farmer for March 25, estimates that the average cost of producing an acre of corn in the twelve north central states in 1921 will in all probability be around $22.

Dairy Products Pool

Article under title, "An Iowa Pooling System", by Carl N. Kennedy, in Wallace's Farmer for March 25, reviews the organization of the Milk Producers' Association, as developed by farmers around Iowa.

Fertilizer Prices

The work done by the Producers' Cooperative Exchange, Inc., of Richmond, Va., has resulted in a new schedule of prices for fertilizers that went into effect March 15. (Herald-Progress, Ashland, Va., March 25)

Forestry

P. L. Buttrick, Assistant Professor of Forestry, Michigan Agricultural College, discusses the Snell forestry bill, in The Michigan Farmer for March 19. Believes that the bill should go a long way towards alleviating the timber shortage.

French Agriculture

The Ministry of the liberated regions has classified the French devasted area in three zones: blue zone, land requiring a simple clearing; yellow zone, land requiring important reconstruction work; and red zone, land in which the cost of reconstruction will exceed considerably the value of the land. Statistics show that in August, 1920, 4,003,020 acres had been cleared and that there still remains 494,200 acres in the red zone to be restored. Journal d'Agriculture Pratique, Feb. 26. ~~(Contributed by Bur. of Crop Estimates)~~

Fruit Growing

"Fruit Growers Cooperate with M.A.C.", is the title of an article in the Michigan Farmer for March 19 describing a plan recently adopted by which fruit growers of Michigan will help plan the experiments of the Michigan Agricultural College station.

Grain Marketing

W.G. Eckhardt, Director of the Grain Marketing Department of the Illinois Agricultural Association and Treasurer of the Committee of Seventeen, is at Spokane, Washington, and Lewistown, Montana, this week for meetings to pick state delegates to the ratifying convention of the national grain marketing plan, slated for Chicago, April 6. On March 30 he is to explain the Committee of Seventeen plan to the Executive Officers of the Mid-West Conference at Indianapolis. (Illinois Agricultural Association News Letter No. 45. March 24, 1921.)

Legislation 1. At a recent joint hearing in the Wisconsin Legislature the administration marketing bill and the Freehoff bill to provide new relationships between existing commissions were discussed at length. The Freehoff measure met firm opposition because it would make the Wisconsin Dairy and Food Commission a part of the State Department of Agriculture in what might appear to be a subordinate position according to the magnitude of the dairy industry. (Wisconsin Farmer, March 24)

2. Two meritorious bills for breeders, designed to prevent fictitious valuations, by bidding and other dishonest practices in the conduct of livestock sales in the state, were passed during the recent session of the Oregon legislature, through the efforts of Representative McArthur of the Third Oregon District in the House of Representatives. (Western Breeders Journal, March 17.)

3. Most of the important bills dealing with agriculture have been reported out of committee in both houses of Iowa Assembly and have been placed on the calendar, according to Wallace's Farmer for March 25. The bill for the establishment of non-stock, non-profit associations is mentioned as probably the most immediately important cooperative measure before the assembly.

4. The Missouri agricultural consolidation bill has passed the House and Senate but the emergency clause failing will delay its going into effect until the expiration of ninety days. The new law creates the "Missouri State Department of Agriculture", which consolidates into one modern and up-to-date new Department the following legalized boards and departments and the officers thereof, including the sundry subdepartments of the State Board of Agriculture and State Fair Board: The State Fruit Station and Fruit Station Board at Mountain Grove; State Poultry Station, Poultry Board and State Poultry Association at Mountain Grove; Missouri State Horticultural Society; State Board of Horticulture; Stallion Registry Board; Department of Land Reclamation; Board and Bureau of Immigration; Grain and Warehouse Commissioner and Grain Inspection Department; State Board of Agriculture; State Fair Board and State Fair. (The Missouri Clip-Sheet, March 19)

Livestock — The Live Stock Marketing Department of the Illinois Agricultural Association and of the Missouri Farm Bureau Federation have planned to cooperate in the service being offered to shippers at the East St. Louis Stock Yards. Lee S. Divine will represent shippers and shippers' associations from both states. The service aims to represent shippers and to take care of their stock for a nominal fee just as if the owner were able to be at the Yards in person. (Ill. Agric. Assoc. News Letter, No. 45. March 24, 1921.)

London Wool Sales — Although a distinctly lower level of the values has been ruling at London wool auctions, the absorption by the trade of the bulk of the offerings is something from which a good deal of satisfaction may be derived. (Commercial Bulletin, March 26.)

Milk — The Health Department of New York City has begun a campaign to bar the use of vegetable oils as milk imitations, according to New York Times for March 27.

Nitrate "Considering the high hopes with which the year was entered upon, 1920 proved a decided disappointment in the Chilean nitrate industry", says an article on nitrate results and prospects in the London Economist for February 19.

Oats Surplus "The oats surplus as of March 1, 1921, is about but not quite such a serious matter as the corn surplus", says an editorial in Wallace's Farmer for March 25. "This year we enter the planting season with 690,000,000 bushels of oats on farms, as compared with 473,000,000, the average of the past ten years."

Shippers Conference The immediate repeal of the rate-making provisions of the Cummins-Esch law was demanded at a recent meeting in Chicago of 200 representatives of the shippers. A committee of five was appointed with J.R. Howard, Chairman, to carry into effect the resolutions adopted by the conference. (Wisconsin Farmer, March 24.)

Southern Agriculture The business men of Memphis, through the Farm Development Bureau of its Chamber of Commerce, have developed a plan of crop rotation for the Delta farmers. This implies increase in livestock, greater area fertilized and growing of more leguminous crops during cotton curtailment. (Manufacturers Record for March 24.)

Sugar The Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture estimates that Hungary will produce enough sugar for its home consumption during the coming season. Journal des Fabricants de Sucre, Paris, Feb. 18.

Tariff 1. The Payne-Aldrich tariff duty on greasy wool, 11 cents a pound, has been agreed upon by the House subcommittee framing the permanent tariff measure to be introduced at the extra session, according to the press of March 27.

2. Chemical and dyestuffs section of the general new tariff bill, which the Ways and Means Committee will report out early in the extra session of Congress will be substantially the Longworth dyestuffs bill, as passed by the House and amended by the Senate Finance Committee, Representative Longworth stated on March 25. (Daily News Record, March 26)

Wheat "When Should We Sell Wheat"? is title of an analysis of present market conditions, by Gilbert Gusler, in The Michigan Farmer for March 19. Presents charts showing seasonal trend in prices, and seasonal trend in visible supply of wheat.

Wool Credits It is reported from Montevideo that the Administrative Council has under consideration a credit to Germany similar to that extended to France and England. A rumor states that Austria has also applied for a similar loan. The object of the loan would be the purchase by Germany of Uruguayan wool and other products which are now lying in the warehouses for lack of a market. (Commerce Reports, March 24.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 5 March 29, 1921

As a preliminary to general tariff revision, enactment of an anti-dumping bill is planned to prevent the dumping of foreign merchandise upon the American market at less than its fair value in the country of production. Under the congressional program the bill will be passed at the beginning of the special session. The bill to be presented in the House will be similar to the Fordney bill as passed by the House last year. (Wash. Herald, Mar. 29.)

Freezing temperature over the Southwest, with rain, snow and hail over parts of Kansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska are said to have damaged the fruit crop, which was well advanced, and injured wheat that was jointed. A report from Dodge City, Kansas, said 75 per cent of jointed wheat had been frozen to the ground. (Wash. Herald, Mar. 29.)

"The Tariff legislative program has hit another snag. It is the opposition of the East to the reenactment of the farmers' emergency tariff bill vetoed by President Wilson. This opposition has become so pronounced as to be strong enough to delay its passage in the Senate indefinitely."
(N.Y. Times, Mar. 29.)

Arkansas Roads

It is announced that Federal engineers will proceed to Arkansas to investigate road situation in so far as it relates to Federal aid projects. Information in possession of Bureau of Public Roads corresponds in essential details with that telegraphed New York Times by its correspondent who investigated Arkansas road situation.
(N.Y. Times, Mar. 29.)

Beet Sugar in Europe

Production of beet sugar in Europe has increased 1,061,000 tons in 1921 over 1919-20, according to a circular issued by F.O. Licht of Magdsburg and received in New York March 26.
(Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 26.)

Bulgarian Farmers' Congress

A Congress of great significance has just been held at Sofia. More than 6,000 peasants participated, sent as delegates from peasant associations. Since 1918 the political situation in Bulgaria has been rather uncertain. However, the power has finally fallen into the hands of the strongest party, the farmers, represented by M. Stamboulisky, a farmer himself. (Bulletin des Halles, March 2.)

Chinese Eggs

Former Commissioner Benson, Washington State Department of Agriculture, who has made a tour of the Orient, urges exclusion from the United States of Chinese egg products until factories making them are inspected and the packages stamped by inspectors of U.S. Department of Agriculture. (Butter, Cheese and Egg Journal, Mar. 16.)

Cooperative Marketing

1. According to plans recently completed at Hastings for formation of Nebraska Wheat Growers' Association for cooperative marketing of wheat based upon the commodity pooling plan, the organization committee plans to have growers sign association contract binding them to market their wheat through this association for a period of five years. (Nebraska Farmer for Mar. 26.)

2. "Conservative Connecticut farmers are not very enthusiastic about the way the proposed Garber-Northam cooperative grain project is developing; the way it antagonized the Hartford County farm bureau is distinctly against it." (Editorial in New England Homestead for March 26.)

Cotton in Oklahoma

"It seems pretty well established that the cotton carry-over this year, from the 1920 and previous crops, will be not less than 8,000,000 bales. *** In the face of these figures it would seem financial suicide for any cotton grower to base his hopes on all-cotton this year. Of all times in the history of cotton, this is the time for the farmer to make sure of plenty of food and feed before he is justified in planting a single pound of cottonseed." (From editorial in Oklahoma Farmer-Stockman for March 25.)

Dried Fruit Packing

The plan of the California Prune and Apricot Growers, Inc., to ship their products to eastern markets in bags, thus securing preferential freight rates, is meeting with little approval from other Pacific Coast fruit association. Both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach and Fig Growers, Inc., have declared they favored continued control of packing of dried fruits in California rather t han scattering the industry. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 26.)

Dried Fruit Market

The one big feature of the dried fruit market is the prune situation, which fails to show improvement such as packers would like to welcome. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 28.)

Egg Reserve Stock

There is a growing feeling in the egg trade that the volume of accumulated reserve this year will pass all previous records, in which case there is not much assurance of profitable results of storage even on the levels of value that prevailed before the sharp upward spurt of 1917, states the Journal of Commerce for March 26.

Farm Organizations

Seven farm organizations, through their executive committees, will meet at Washington, the date tentatively set being April 14. They will attempt to agree on agricultural legislation which they will back in the special session of Congress. The organizations represented will be: The American Farm Bureau Federation; National Board of Farm Organizations; National Grange; Farmers' Union; National Milk Producers' Federation; American Cotton Association; International Farm Congress. Policies agreed upon will be submitted to the national mass meeting called to Washington by the Farmers' Union, which will convene April 20. (Oklahoma Farmer-Stockman, Mar. 25.)

French Imports

French imports of foodstuffs and materials for manufactured goods decreased slightly more than 2,000,000 francs during the months of January and February, as compared with last year. The exports in the same categories increased over 1,000,000 francs. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 26.)

French Livestock

France has now more cows and oxen than ever before, according to cables from Consul General Thackara, at Paris. There are now 12,755,000. The nearest to this number occurred in 1913, when there were 12,668,000. Sheep have fallen off from 14,038,000 in 1913 to 9,376,000 now and swine from 5,026,000 to 4,585,000. Horses have increased 2,205,000 to 2,413,000. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 26.)

German Beet Production

German federal bureau of statistics shows in final result of German harvest for 1920 that there was a substantial gain in the sugar beet production; the increase was from 19.3 tons to 24.3 tons per hectare. The production was derived from approximately the same acreage which yielded a total of 7,964,024 tons in 1920, as compared with 5,817,817 tons in 1919. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 26.)

Hemp

A report from Milan states that the Italian hemp farmers have prevented the further drop in hemp prices by cutting down this year's planting of hemp to 50 per cent. (N.Y. Daily News Record, Mar.28.)

Immigrants on Land

Commission er General Husband of Immigration Bureau has received from banks, business firms, railroads, chambers of commerce and individuals all over the country offers to cooperate in the immigration service proposal to settle immigrants on small farms. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 28.)

India's Wheat Crop

The first wheat forecast of Government of India for the 1920-21 crop of India, based upon reports of the areas sown up to the beginning of January in the Provinces and States which comprise 98.6 per cent of total wheat area of India, estimates the total planting to wheat at that time as 22,973,000 acres, compared with the estimate of 27,425,000 at the corresponding time last year. (Commerce Reports, Mar. 25.)

Labor

1. The United States Railroad Labor Board March 28 dismissed appeals for increased wages filed with it last fall by fifteen railway labor unions against 67 "short lines" throughout the country. The board decision affects approximately 4000 employees. (Wash. Star, Mar. 28.)

2. "There are some rays of light for the farmers in the improved labor situation; already there have been many applications for situations in farm work made at the Department of Agriculture." (New England Homestead for March 26.)

Ohio Bread Weight Bill

The Ohio Senate March 25 passed the Brand bill to standardize the weight of bread. The bill fixes weights of loaves at 16 to 24 ounces or multiples of one pound.

Ohio Ice Cream Bill

The Ohio Senate March 25 passed the Kryder ice cream standardization bill after it had been amended to reduce the butter fat requirement from 12 to 8 per cent. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 26.)

Packers' Legislation

Justice Stafford of District of Columbia Supreme Court March 28 permitted a delay of two weeks for preparation of arrangements for the taking of testimony as to value of stockyards in which interests are owned by Armour and Co. and Swift and Co. Council for the Government and for the packers will meet in court April 11 to have limitations of time set for the taking of this evidence and hearing testimony concerning the value of these properties. (Wash. Star, Mar. 28.)

Price Level Control

In an editorial entitled "Price Level Control" the Nebraska Union Farmer for March 23 discusses the recent statement of Secretary Wallace on the agricultural situation.

Prune Sale to Germany

Sales of small sized prunes by California Prune and Apricot Association to Germany amounted to 7,000,000 pounds up to March 25, all of it payable from money on deposit in New York and San Francisco, according to Journal of Commerce, March 26.

Sugar

An increase in the quantity of sugar shipped ~~to~~ from Georgetown, British Guiana, to the United States from 2,347,589 pounds, worth $227,287, in 1919, to 29,550,960 pounds, worth $3,615,050, in 1920, more than made up the increase in the total declared exports from that consular district from $874,131 to $4,223,110 for these two years. (Commerce Reports, Mar. 26.)

Swiss Livestock

In the budget of the Swiss Federation there is an appropriation of 500,000 francs to be used for the encouragement of breeding associations, and especially for cattle raising. (Farmer and Stockman, Mar. 15.)

Waterways

"Inland Waterway Transportation: Proper Terminal Facilities Essential to Low Cost," is title of leading article in Commerce Monthly for April.

Department of Agriculture

1. The Wisconsin Agriculturist for March 26 contains an editorial under title "Wallace wants to aid farmers".

2. Ohio Farmer for March 26 contains comment under title "Secretary Wallace getting into harness".

Select list of new books added to Library

Boyle, J.E. Speculation and the Chicago Board of Trade. New York, 1920.

Brown, H.C. Lumber markets of Spain and Portugal. 1921. (U. S. Dept. of Commerce. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Special agents' series, No.201)

Select list of new books added to Library (Continued)

Church of England. Archbishop of Canterbury's committee on the church and social service. The church and rural life. London, 1920.

Cotton facts. Comp and ed. by Shepperson. New York, 1920.

Farley, L.C. Le Comptoir coopératif de Montréal. 1920.

Hudson, W. H. Birds of La Plata. 2 v. London, 1920.

Jennison, F.H. The manufacture of lake pigments from artificial colours. 2d ed. London, 1920.

Lewis, W.C. McC. A system of physical chemistry. 3d ed. v. 2. London, 1920.

Mees, C.E.K. The organization of industrial scientific research. New York, 1920.

Oxholm, A.H. Swedish forests, lumber industry, and lumber export trade. 1921. (U.S. Dept. of Commerce. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Special agents' series, no. 195)

Pierce, W.D. Sanitary entomology. Boston, 1921.

Pokorny, Fr., and Selver, P. The Czechoslovak republic. Collected under the direction of Jar. Cisár. Prague, 1920.

Tiemann, H.D. The kiln drying of lumber. 3d ed. Phila., 1920.

Weddel, W. & Co. 33d annual review of the frozen meat trade. 1920. London, 1921.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 6. March 30,1921.

"The railroad problem presents two urgent phases - that of finance and that of wage adjustment. The railroad systems of the United States, broadly considered, are insolvent. They owe huge sums, their bonds are falling due without means of paying or refunding them, their physical equipment is dilapidated, their terminals are inadequate, and their service is almost universally unsatisfactory in both the passenger and freight departments.

"The financial plight of the railroads is now so serious that the government must give relief in some form or other. The derangement of many industries, including the basic industry of agriculture, compels the government to seek means of relieving the railroads from the imminent threat of bankruptcy." (Editorial, Wash. Post, Mar. 30.)

Inefficient management is costing the railroads of the nation $1,000,000,000 a year, W. Jett Lauck, consulting economist for the railway unions told U.S. Railroad Labor Board March 29. (Wash. Herald, Mar. 30.)

The War Finance Corporation last night issued a call for a conference in Washington on April 4 of southern bankers to discuss methods by which the exportation of Southern agricultural products may best be financed. (Wash. Post, Mar. 30.)

A resolution calling for a Congressional investigation of the "good roads" situation, particularly that in Arkansas, will be introduced in the Senate immediately after Congress convenes in extra session, according to the statement yesterday of a Senator to a correspondent of the New York Times.

The cold wave that spread easterly across the Central and Northern States on March 26 to 29 is of great economic interest from the point of view of the fruit grower and consumer.

On the morning of Mar. 28 the temperature was 24 degrees at Roswell, N. Mex; 18 degrees at Amarillo, Tex.; 26 degrees at Oklahoma City, Okla., and 22 degrees at Springfield, Mo. At noon of the 28th the temperature was 32 degrees and sleet was falling at Louisville, Ky, while it was 70 degrees at Wytheville, Va., at Elkins, W. Va., the temperature fell from 76 to 46 degrees b etween 11 a. m. and 12 noon.

Extent of damage suffered by fruits and vegetables Monday night and yesterday from cold wave in sections of Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana, as well as parts of Virginia, Western Maryland, Pennsylvania and New England has not yet been determined.

Agricultural Outlook in St. Louis

Sentiment in the agricultural communities has improved to the extent that producers have become more reconciled to the lower price levels, and are gradually marketing their stocks. There is less talk heard of reducing acreages, and farmers have set about preparing for the new crops. Economy is being practiced on the farms, and there is every evidence that this season's crops will be raised at considerably less cost than those of last year.
(Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Monthly report ... Mar. 28,1921.)

American Farm Bureau Federation

An editorial in The Farmer for Mar. 26 on the subject of the Farm bureau and the County Agent makes reference to the report that the American Farm Bureau Federation may be investigated by Congress on the theory that county agents have no right to help organize farm bureaus or promote cooperative enterprises at all. This misapprehension should be cleared up in the opinion of The Farmer.

Barley Consumption Decreased

Monthly report of the San Francisco Federal Reserve Board states that it is estimated the increasing use of automobiles, motor trucks and tractors has cut down the consumption of feed barley one-third in the last ten years. (Flour and Grain World, March.)

Citrus By-Products

"Putting Rejected Oranges to Work," is the title of an article by Arthur L. Dahl, in Scientific American for March 26, in which he describes how California fruit growers are utilizing their citrus by-products.

Cotton

1. Approximately 60 per cent. of the cotton produced in the Sixth Federal District is still held, and a large proportion of it is pledged as collateral on loans on a basis considerably above the present low market price of the staple. The campaign for a reduction in cotton acreage is being actively prosecuted.
(The Monthly Business Review. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Mar. 28.)

2. Cotton ginners from seven Texas counties at a recent meeting adopted a resolution requesting that the State Ginners' Association legislative committee ask the Governor to submit the question of extending the ginner a lien on a bale of cotton until it is paid, to the special session of the legislature soon to be convened.
(Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 29.)

3. Editorial in Wall Street Journal, March 29 says: "Prof. J.A.Todd, Secretary of the Empire Cotton Growing Committee, and Professor of economics in Nottingham University, said at world cotton conference at New Orleans; 'It will be nothing short of a calamity for America to restrict her acreage.' But bankers of the South are working for this 'calamity;' and to avoid what seems to them a greater calamity." This editorial quotes Secretary Wallace on subject.

4. Two new Chinese owned cotton factories near Shanghai will be ready for operation in April, according to Wall Street Journal, Mar. 29.

Extension Service and Experiment Stations

Since the rapid development of the Agricultural Extension Service, the public has lost interest in the experiment station, according to Professor Davenport, of University of Illinois. He says: "The Extension Service is of unlimited use to agriculture, but it can never replace the experiment stations, nor would experience ever take the place of investigation."
(Phila. Public Ledger, Mar. 29.)

Foreign Trade Financing Corporation

Announcement March 28 of the appointment of a committee of bankers to look into the world conditions surrounding trade and to report on the suggestion that credit be not extended until the machinery of the League of Nations is perfected was regarded as an indication that the operation of the $100,000,000 Foreign Trade Corporation organized under the Edge law might be postponed for the present. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 29.)

Grain Marketing

The grain marketing plan proposed by the Farmers' Marketing Committee of 17 is meeting with hearty and practically unanimous approval from farmers and farm organizations. Nine state meetings were held last week, at which the plan was explained and delegates elected to the ratification meeting April 6.

Although these state meetings were not asked to ratify the plan, many of them did so. Unanimous indorsement was voted in Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas.
(The Prairie Farmer, Mar. 26.)

Gt. Britain Minister of Agriculture

Lieut.-Col. The Right Honorable Sir Arthur Griffith-Boscawan, M.P., has been appointed Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries of Great Britain in succession to Lord Lee of Farham, who has been appointed First Lord of the Admiralty. (Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture, London, March.)

Industrial Advisory Committees

Secretary Hoover stated March 28 that progress is being made in completing the organization of the industrial advisory committees to work with the Department of Commerce in developing foreign markets for particular commodities and in increasing exports along these lines. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 29.)

Labor

1. The plain truth is that the demands of unions for continuance of present wages and hours are impossible. Disposition to grant all that is asked might be present, but the ability to do so is lacking. Wages - that is, nominal wages - are coming down.
(Commercial and Financial Chronicle, Mar. 26.)

2. Illinois agricultural demand is being well supplied at $20 and $30 a month less than was paid farm hands a year ago, according to the Director of the State Department of Labor.
(Phila. Public Ledger, Mar. 29.)

Lumbermen Request Consideration

The National Lumber Manufacturers' Association has been asked by the National Retail Lumber Dealers' Association to join in a demand upon the U.S. Railroad Labor Board that the business of the country be given consideration in the present day controversy over wages, working laws and conditions in railroad employment. The Association

Lumbermen Request Consideration (Cont.)

urges that the public be given a hearing, the national agreements abrogated and that the railroads be allowed to take the action they deem necessary. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 29.)

Ohio Experiment Station

The Ohio Governor's reorganization bill places the Ohio Experiment Station under the authority of the board of trustees of the Ohio State University. (Ohio Farmer, Mar. 26.)

Rice

1. The California Rice Situation is reviewed in Flour and Grain World for March.

2. Reports show that acreage planted to rice this year in Louisiana will be only about half what the acreage last year was, and that planters are making the cheapest crop in their history ... The price continues low, but this is an aid to the campaign being conducted to increase rice consumption. (The Monthly Business Review. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Mar. 28.)

Rubber

By far the greatest consumer of the world's rubber is the United States, and statistics show that nearly three-fourths of the world's production is manufactured in this country. Great Britain, which virtually commands all the plantation areas, comes second, using only one-tenth of the world's supply. (Rubber, Resins, Paints, and Varnishes, by R.S. Morrell and A. De Waele.)

Russian Trade

The official text of the trade agreement of Great Britain with Russia is contained in the Manchester Guardian for March 17. It does not officially recognize the Soviet in a diplomatic sense as the governing body of Russia but does recognize its authority. Russia has timber, hemp and hides to export and British traders willing to take the risk can now open up trade relations.

Sugar

The recent slump in the sugar market is having a serious effect on the Brazilian industry, especially in the States of Pernambuco and Algoas, which produce more than half the entire crop of the country. A remedy of the present crisis lies in the adoption of more improved methods, such as in Cuba, where one central consumes the cane produced in a large area. The plan would lead to the absorption of the smaller sugar mills.
(Federal Trade Information Service. Tues. Mar. 29.)

Tractor Industry

Minneapolis Steel and Machinery Company, manufacturers of Twin City tractors and structural iron, reopened its foundry March 28 and will inaugurate an intensive three-months tractor manufacturing program. (Phila. Public Ledger, Mar. 29.)

Warehouses in Foreign Markets

Dr. R.S. MacMawee, Director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, describes among various systems proposed to meet the difficulty that fluctuating foreign exchange presents to international trade, the method of direct sale out of warehouses established in foreign markets, in Commerce Reports for March 25.

Wool Decision

Chief Ashworth, Division of Customs, Treasury Department, has made ruling concerning wool imports, effective on imposition of emergency tariff measure. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 29.)

Select List of New Books Added to Library

Drennan, Robert. A history of the South Devon cattle. Plymouth,1920.
Eno, W.P. The science of highway traffic regulation, 1899-1920.
Philip, W.J. Grain elevators for Union of South Africa. Pretoria, 1920.(Pub. by Railways and harbours board of Union of South Africa.)
Swift & Co. Yearbook, 1921.
Thomson, J.A. Natural history studies; an anthology of the author's own works. New York, 1921.
Todd, John A. Comparative prices of Egyptian and American cottons, etc., in Alexandria, Liverpool, New York, and New Orleans. Quarters ending Oct. 1, 1920 & Jan. 1, 1921. London.
U. S. War industries board. American industries in the war. A report of the War industries board by B.M. Baruch, Chairman. 1921.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 7. March 31, 1921.

Outstanding phases of the railroad situation are as follows:

President Harding, as first step in federal inquiry into rail situation, calls chairmen of Railroad Labor Board and Interstate Commerce Commission to the White House.

New York Central makes first appeal to Railroad Labor Board to authorize wage reductions, asking provisional sanction for cutting wage of 25,000 unskilled workers.

National Association of Owners of Railroad Securities invites leaders of "Big Four" brotherhoods to confer on plans for adjustments equitable to all interests.

Pennsylvania Railroad, at meeting with labor representatives in Pittsburgh this morning, will present plans for reducing wages of all employees. (Phila. Public Ledger, Mar. 31.)

A deficit for January of $1,167,000 was shown for 202 railroads of the country in reports submitted to the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Association of Railway Executives announced last night. (N.Y. Times, Mar. 31.)

Abolishment of the Census Bureau and the creation in its stead of a Bureau of Statistics which would handle all the nation's statistical work is being considered by the administration as a part of the general plan for the reorganization of the government departments, officials said last night. (Wash. Post, Mar. 31.)

Fourteen of the so-called independent packing concerns in Chicago are threatened with a strike involving 8,000 butcher workingmen unless the Washington agreement recently signed by the Big Five packers and their employees is put into effect immediately by the smaller concerns. (Wash. Herald, Mar. 31.)

Brazilian Coffee Trade

Proposals for stimulation of the Brazilian coffee exports to the United States are reviewed in Commerce Reports for March 28.

California Warehouse Act

The "California Warehouse Act," was approved by the Assembly Committee on Agriculture, March 16, and sent out with a recommendation that it be passed. (Pacific Rural Press, Mar. 26.)

Committee of Seventeen

1. An analysis of the report of the Committee of Seventeen in the American Cooperative Journal for March states that to one familiar with the work of the Committee of Seventeen in their study of cooperative systems now in use by growers, in marketing their products in the United States and Canada, it is quite clear that they have not adopted any one plan, but have made a careful study of all plans and adopted the best of each.

2. The grain marketing plan of the Committee of Seventeen is criticised in an editorial in the Price Current-Grain Reporter for March 23. The weakness of the scheme is said to be in the fact that it undertakes to supplant a marketing system that is "entirely satisfactory to all but a comparatively few people ... and it purposes to conduct a business involving between 4,000 and 5,000 millions of dollars with the capital of a peanut stand".

Cooperative Marketing

"The long look ahead has convinced officials of the American Farm Bureau Federation that one of the chief difficulties to be met in the cooperative marketing of farm crops will be the lack of trained men to man the marketing machinery efficiently. Accordingly, President J.R. Howard has written to the Presidents of the various state universities and agricultural colleges and suggested that their institutions would render a great and appreciated service to agriculture by establishing courses in cooperative marketing." (Hoard's Dairyman, Apr. 1.)

Cooperative Marketing of Milk

"Cooperative Milk Distribution in Kentucky," is the title of an article in "Hoard's Dairyman" for April which tells of the success of plan adopted.

Cotton

1. "America's domination of world's cotton trade," is title of article in Pacific Ports for April, 1921.

2. The total world production of cotton during the 1920-1 season is estimated at 20,000,000 to 22,000,000 bales. This is about 3,000,000 bales less than the production during the 1919-20 season. (From estimates computed from statistics compiled by the Industrial Service Department of Merchants' National Bank of Boston, published in Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 30.)

Cotton Acreage in Georgia

J.J. Brown, Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture, states he believes that when the reduction meeting is held in Atlanta on April 12 it will be learned that growers have decided to cut their plantings 50 per cent. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 30.)

Cuban Sugar Statistics

Figures on the 1920-21 sugar production of a group of Cuba's most important mills to the end of February, as compared with their output from the 1919-20 crop to the same date have been compiled and appear in Facts About Sugar for March 26.

Dairy Legislation

Dairymen have been very active this season at their state capitols, with more legislative matters pending on the milk business than in several years put together. This is particularly the case on legislation which would make it unlawful to sell as milk products any substitute material which had the butter fat replaced by cocoanut oil, vegetable oils or similar substitutes. (American Agriculturist, Apr. 2.

Dairying in Tennessee

The dairymen of Tennessee have suddenly been placed in a very favorable position on account of the financial condition of the country. Of the many agricultural interests of Tennessee, dairying has suffered perhaps less than any other single industry. (The Progressive Farmer, Mar. 26.)

Finance

The International Acceptance Bank, Inc., organized to promote foreign trade, will open in New York April 12. Paul M. Warburg will become chairman of the board of directors. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 30.)

Finance Corporation Plan Delay

The change of plan concerning the Edge law bank for financing foreign trade does not in the least alter the necessity of providing at the earliest moment for the financing of foreign trade along rational lines; the leadership in the sound, postwar development of this country's international commerce must be taken by our banking institutions, says The Journal of Commerce for March 30.

Freight Rates

The deadly combination of low prices and high freight rates is compelling the growers in the Mississippi valley to burn corn for fuel, because they cannot afford to ship it, buy coal and have the coal shipped back, says the leading editorial in the Oregon Farmer for March 24.

German Sugar Crop

German federal statistical bureau estimates total German sugar crop for 1920-21 at 65,600,000 double centners - a double centner equaling 220.4 pounds. Estimated 1919-20 yield was 810,150 tons. (Commerce Reports, Mar. 28.)

Green Bug Damage

Green bug damage is reported from Southern Kansas in Modern Miller, for March 26.

Hemp

Inquiries for Manila hemp indicate but a languid interest in cordage making quarters, the slackness of trade in that industry rendering manufacturers indifferent to conditions in their raw material market. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 30.)

Hide Imports

During 1920 declared exports from Rio Grande, Brazil, to the United States were valued at only $532,456, as compared with $2,653,956 in 1919. Hides are the only item of any importance shipped from the district and the decline in their shipments from 7,459,787 pounds, valued at $2,409,168 in 1919 to 1,420,113 pounds, valued at $474,416 in 1920 was responsible for the decrease. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 30.)

Hide Prices

1. George H. Swift, President of the National Leather Company, says the average weekly sales this year have been approximately twice as much as the average weekly sales for the last four months of 1920. He states that present prices of raw materials are much lower than prewar prices, and that many grades of hides and skins are selling today at from one-half to two-thirds prewar prices. (Jour. of Commerce, Mar. 30.)

2. The decline in hide and skin prices, which began last summer and has continued uninterruptedly to the present time, has carried the market to the lowest point reached in 20 years, states The National Provisioner for March 26.

Imports

"Some of our people seem to have an abnormal fear of imports. They fail to see that imports are a necessary accompaniment of exports, and think that other countries are about to swamp us with their products when as a matter of fact these people are at their wit's end to find means of making payment for the goods they are buying here. The movement of wheat between this country and Canada for the full year 1920 consisted of 14,811,672 bushels from this country to Canada and 34,954,304 from Canada to this country. *** There are people alarmed about the butter industry of this country because we imported in 1920 about 37,000,000 pounds. The truth is that the fluctuations of rainfall in this country have much more effect on the butter supply than all the importations." (March bulletin of National City Bank, N.Y.)

Kansas City Hay Market

"The World's Largest Hay Market," is the title of an article by Sanders Sosland, in Hoard's Dairyman for April 1, which gives a detailed description of the Kansas City hay market, tracing the hay from the producer to the final consumer.

Meat Packing

"Success in Meat Packing," is the title of an article in The National Provisioner for March 26, by F. Edson White, Vice President, Armour & Co., who analyzes the subject in its economic aspect.

Mexican Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture of Mexico has cancelled all but one of the large land concessions in Lower California. An import duty of ten cents on rice and fifteen cents on cotton has been ordered by the Government to protect these two important industries from the ravages of the foreigner. (Journal of the American Chamber of Commerce of Tampico, March.)

National Marketing Commission

"A Straighter Road to Market," is the title of an article by Julius H. Barnes in the April number of the Nation's Business, in which the author advocates a National Marketing Commission to study defects, remedies and improvements in a marketing system that is "beyond challenge the best in the world."

Sugar

Report of the annual meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association on March 10 is given in The Louisiana Planter and Sugar Manufacturer for March 26.

Sugar Chemists and Technologists Meeting

The third meeting of the American Society of Sugar Chemists and Technologists, now an organized section of the American Chemical Society, will meet in Rochester, N.Y., April 25 to 30, inclusive. (Louisiana Planter and Sugar Manufacturer, Mar. 26.)

Sugar Planters' Publication

Publication of a monthly journal for plantation workers has been undertaken by the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, the first issue appearing March 1. The Paper is in four languages, English, Japanese, Tagalog and Ilocano. (Louisiana Planter and Sugar Manufacturer, Mar. 26.)

Venezuelan Agriculture

"The agricultural zone of Venezuela covers approximately 300,000 square kilometers, the fertile soil and variations of climate admitting of all kinds of cultivation," says a review of "Venezuela, a Geographical Sketch," in Commerce Reports for March 28. A table shows principal products of the zone and approximate amount of capital invested in the cultivation of each.

Department of Agriculture

1. "A Farmer as Secretary of Agriculture," is sub-head of article on "The New Cabinet and its Problems," by Samuel McCune Lindsay, in Review of Reviews for April.

2. "Secretary Wallace's Remedy," is the title of an editorial in the Price Current Grain Reporter for March 23.

3. In editorial under title, "The Iowa Point of View," the Pacific Rural Press for March 26 reviews the secretaryship of Agriculture and its relation to Iowa.

4. The Grain Dealers' National Association has come out openly with a demand for the elimination of the Bureau of Markets. Who is Who, a publication supported by the Grain Dealers' National Association, says: "That the Bureau of Markets has become an enemy of the independent grain dealer is shown by the fact that it is counseling the county agents in the various states to function as distributing agents. *** Thus they come in direct competition with the independent grain dealer." (Modern Miller, Mar. 26.)

Select List of New Books Added to Library

Green, A.G. The analysis of dyestuffs and their identification in dyed and coloured materials, lake-pigments, foodstuffs, etc. 3d ed. London, 1920.

Hinckes, R.T. The world's wheat problem. Will the guarantee help to solve it? Hereford, Eng., 1920.

Rhodesia. Resources committee. Report, 1921.

South Dakota. Marketing dept. State ownership of terminal elevators, flour mills and packing plants. Pierre, 1920.

Woofter, T.J. Negro migration; changes in rural organization and population of the cotton belt. New York, 1920.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 8. April 1, 1921.

Railroad employees last night laid a proposal before President Harding for a conference between labor and the railroads in an attempt to settle the whole transportation problem now confronting the country, so far as labor is concerned. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 1.)

Today's press quotes a statement by Secretary Wallace urging protection for farmers on an equality with manufacturers and industrial interests in any tariff policy which is to be decided upon, and adding to any rates which may be levied "an amount equal to the extra freight charges in getting products to the consuming centers."

Representative Fordney declared yesterday that the House members will not agree to the proposal of Republican Senators for the combing of the emergency agricultural tariff bill, the anti-dumping bill and the American valuation bill in a single measure. He insisted that the emergency tariff bill should stand by itself. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 1.)

Twelve independent Chicago packing concerns informed the Department of Labor yesterday of their acceptance of the agreement reached last week by the five big packers and their union employees through the mediation of Secretaries Davis, Wallace and Hoover. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 1.)

Suspension of proposed freight rate increases on grain and grain products from Kansas City, St. Louis and Missouri River points to points in Illinois was ordered yesterday by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The increases were postponed until July 30. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 1.)

President Harding yesterday appointed George H. Carter, formerly of Iowa, to be Public Printer.

Problems facing the cotton growers of the country will be discussed with President Harding on Saturday by a delegation representing the American Cotton Association. One of the principal features to be discussed is the extension of long-time credits to the cotton men. (Wash. Star, Mar. 31.)

Argentine Meat Trade

The Buenos Aires Herald for March 3 notes the fact that Argentine meat is selling more cheaply in Amsterdam than Holland meat, and also that the prejudice in England against foreign meat is passing, as shown by greatly increased imports to the British market.

Arkansas Roads

The New York Times for March 31 has another article and an editorial on the Arkansas roads situation.

Banana Strife in Jamaica

Jamaican fruit companies trading with the United States are engaged in fierce competition. The banana price has risen and many cultivators are selling immature fruit in consequence. (N.Y. Times, Mar. 31.)

British Frozen-Meat Trade

A review of the British frozen-meat trade in 1920 is given in Commerce Reports for March, 29.

Butter

It is reported today that in view of the expiry on March 31, 1921, of the Imperial Government contract for the purchase of the New South Wales surplus butter supply, considerable speculation now exists respecting the export situation that may develop after that date. There are many who believe that present prices will have to be reduced if a steady market is to be retained. On the other hand, dairy-farming interests will certainly do their best to hold up prices to the level of the Imperial contract basis/ The price for New South Wales butter under the Imperial contract arrangement is 274 shillings per hundredweight for butter grading 90 points, with an advance of 1s. 6d. per point up to 94 points, plus three shillings per hundredweight for unsalted butter. The price for local consumption is fixed by regulation at a maximum of £13 15s. 4d. per hundredweight for 93 point, or choicest butter. (Commerce Reports. Mar. 29, 1921.)

Canadian Northwest Agriculture

In an article under title," The Newest Northwest," in April Review of Reviews, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., describes the undeveloped agricultural area of British Columbia now traversed by the new Pacific Great Eastern Railway.

Chemical Food

"The Possibilities of Chemical Food," is the title of an article by Dr. C.L. Alsberg in the Rural New Yorker for April 2.

Cooperation vs. Corporations of Farmers

"Farmers Cooperative Companies and Farmers Corporations," is the title of an article by M. H. Rath in the American Cooperative Manager for March 25, which argues that it is not necessary for the farmers' business to be handled cooperatively but that farmers' corporations can serve the farmers' interests in the best possible way.

Dye Industry and National Welfare

"Influence of a Synthetic Dye Industry upon our National Welfare", is the title of an article by Marston Taylor Bogert in Chemical Age for March.

Farm Implement Prices

It is impossible at this time to determine what percentage of advance present prices of farm equipment show over 1913, but on the basis of 78 per cent total average advance it is clear that the machines which have been reduced 15 per cent are now only 51 per cent higher than in 1913. It is safe to assume also that the reductions have made the farm equipment percentage over 1913 lower than percentage for all commodities as a whole. (From editorial in Farm Implement News, Mar. 24.)

Farm Tenantry

That Nebraska is "drifting along much like the rest of the states" in the matter of an increase in farm tenantry, is the statement of an editorial in The Nebraska Farm Journal for April 1, which says, further "Nebraska has not yet reached the '50-50' mark but it is coming dangerously close, for the annual report of the state department of agriculture shows that 49.3 per cent of all farms in the state are occupied by tenant farmers."

Federal Farm Loan System

"The sudden easing up of interest rates is sure proof that the Federal Farm Loan System is rendering the service expected of it," says an editorial in The Nebraska Farm Journal for April 1.

Finance

A comprehensive survey of economic conditions throughout the United States is being made by the American Bankers Association, headquarters announced March 30. (Wash. Post, Mar. 31.)

Financing International Trade

According to latest advices, European statesmen, bankers and business men have at length agreed on the so-called Ter Meulen plan as the best means for financing trade with the countries most crippled by the war. This and other schemes for financing international trade are outlined in Wall Street Journal, March 31.

Flour

"Flour Milling and the Cereal Chemist," is the title of an article by R. Wallace Mitchell, President, American Association of Cereal Chemists, in Chemical Age for March.

Grain Marketing

Marketing of wheat in this district in the month of February was on a larger scale than in any previous February, the receipts at the four principal markets being 9,463,050 bushels as compared with 5,850,050 bushels in February 1920, an increase of 62.7o/o. The increase was shared by all markets in about the same percent. Receipts of corn at the same markets were 4,645,000 bushels against 5,038,850 bushels a year ago, a decrease of 393,850 bushels or 7.8%. The receipts of oats also showed a very large falling off, the decrease being 1,748,000 bushels or 64%, for the four markets. The active marketing of wheat in February was a continuation of the disposition of producers to unload a large portion of their surplus for which they had anticipated higher prices. (The Monthly Review. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. Mar. 21, 1921.)

International Institute Bulletin

In the current and succeeding issues of the English edition of the bulletin published by the International Institute of Agriculture, Rome, Italy, and containing international crop reports and agricultural statistics, measures of area have been and will be converted into acres and for the corresponding quantities into centals of 100 pounds and into gallons. The coefficients adopted are: one hectare - 2.4711 acres; one quintal - 2.20463 centals; one hectoliter - 21.99755 gallons.

Italy's Lemon and Orange Crops

The lemon and orange crops of the Naples consular district for the season of 1921 promise to be unusually good. The lemon crop of this year is estimated at 100 per cent above the average as compared with that of 1920, which was 30 per cent below normal. Approximately the same figures are given for the orange production. (Commerce Reports, Mar. 29.)

Japanese Import Duties

The Japanese Woolen Industrial Association is petitioning the Government for an increase of import duty on woolen cloths from 8 to 10 sen per 100 grammes to about 80% ad valorem. Owing to the convention existing between Japan and Britain, it is considered improbable that the Government will sanction this increase. (Federal Trade Information Service. Mar. 30, 1921.)

Margarin Food Value

"Food Value of Margarin," is the title of an article by J.S. Abbott, Secretary-Treasurer, Institute of Independent Margarin Manufacturers, in Chemical Age for March.

Marketing Canadian Wool

"How Canadian Farmers Marketed Wool," is the title of a comprehensive article by Earl W. Gage, in The Rural New Yorker for April 2.

Mexican Wool Market

The native raw wool supply does not nearly supply the demand created by the half dozen important woolen mills in Mexico, and there has been a fairly active trade for several years in wool imports. The market is now strongly invaded by French and British shippers and "tops" of slightly inferior grade are offered at from 25 to 30 cents under quotations by American houses. (Commerce Reports, Mar. 29.)

Milk Products in Australia

The manufacture of milk products in Australia is reviewed in Commerce Reports for March 29.

Nebraska Endorses Market Plan

Nearly a thousand farmers of Nebraska met at Lincoln on March 21 and ratified the marketing plan of the Committee of Seventeen. (The Nebraska Farm Journal, April.)

Nebraska Tractor Testing Law

"One Year of Tractor Testing," is the title of an article by Frank A. Meckel, Farm Engineering editor, in The Nebraska Farm Journal for April 1. He states that results have proved that the Nebraska law is a beneficial measure, both to the manufacturers and to the farmers.

Non-partisan League in North Dakota

Political factions opposed to the Non-partisan league in North Dakota, in convention at Devil's Lake, March 31, ordered that a recall election aimed at certain state officials be held on or before Nov. 8. The recall election as ordered is directed against Governor Frazier, Attorney General Lemke and Commissioner of Agriculture Hagen. (Wash. Post, Apr. 1.)

North Dakota Finances

"North Dakota's Financial Dilemma," is the title of an article by Charles Moreau Harger in Review of Reviews for April.

Rice Exports

During January the United States exported to foreign countries, exclusive of Porto Rico, 899,020 pockets of rice for $1,389,832, bringing the total exports of the season of 1920-21 up to 1,535,269 pockets, according to a report just issued by J.B. Wise. (Manufacturers Record, Mar. 31.)

Sugar

Although the Cuban sugar crop is likely to be a million tons below the estimate for this yesr, there is no reason for any advance in price here, in the opinion of Henry De Ford, President of the Caribbean Sugar Company. He states that the cost of labor has gone down from $6 and $7 to $2.50 a day in the sugar industry in Cuba. (N.Y. Times, Mar. 31.)

Sugar Cane in South Mississippi

"Following upon the heels of the revolution which was wrought in the sweet potato industry by extension forces operating in cooperation with the Federal and State Agricultural departments, who put into effect a standardization of methods of production which resulted in making famous the Nancy Yam throughout the country, plans are being formulated to proceed along similar lines in applying this same method as a basis for experimenting in the sugar cane industry throughout South Mississippi." (Manufacturers Record, Mar. 31.)

Syria

Dr. George Samne, in his recent book, "La Syrie," describes the agricultural and climatic character of Syria and contends that France should take an interest in promoting the agricultural, commercial and industrial development of a country which will gain by being better known to her people. It is desirable, the author states, that Syria regain her reputation in the silk industry, as the silks of Syria are almost all exported to France. He thinks the restoration of the industry would be rapid if modern methods were introduced. (Bulletin des Halles, Mar. 16.)

Tariff and Oriental Oils

"Reactions of a Tariff on Oriental Oils," is title of article by John Aspegren in Chemical Age for March.

Tariff on Lemons

"If we cannot have both the duty of three cents a pound on fresh lemons and the full duty asked herein on lemon products it would be better for the industry to cut the duty on fresh lemons to two cents a pound and levy the full duty asked on the lemon products. The full duty asked on lemon products is of the greatest consequence to us." (California Cultivator, Mar. 26.)

Vermont Tuberculosis Fund

The Vermont legislature has appropriated $200,000 to finance a campaign for clearing the state of tuberculosis among cattle. This amount will be given for two successive years. (Rural New Yorker, Apr. 2.)

Department of Agriculture

Dr. A. C. True is quoted in an editorial entitled "Cooperative buying and the county agent" in Farm Implement News for March 24.

Select List of New Books Added to Library

Canada, Parliament. House of commons. Special committee on scientific research. Scientific research. Ottawa, 1920

Howard, A.L. The timbers of India. London, [1919?]

Tannehill, J.W. Ohio live stock; a history of the introduction, development and taxation of live stock in Ohio during the past century. 1920.

Wood, T.B. The chemistry of crop production. London, 1920.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 9. April 2, 1921.

The American cotton situation was described as very serious yesterday at a conference between the Secretary of Commerce and John S. Wanamaker, of the American Cotton Association. It was announced that Southern bankers and representatives of producers will meet Mr. Hoover April 5 in an effort to decide upon a remedy.

Plans tentatively proposed for discussion by southern bankers and representatives of cotton producers with government officials next week include: Formation of southern export organizations to extend long credits to European purchasers of cotton; War Finance Corporation assistance to this export movement; Edge bank organizations in the South to handle foreign credits; a method, not yet worked out, of getting long-time credits to the cotton farmer, so he can get cash for his crop while the paper credits are being arranged. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 2.)

The 1,300 striking employees of the Independent Packing Company and the William Davies Packing Company will vote today on the question of calling off the strike, officials of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workers' Union announced last night, after they had received a request from the Secretary of Labor to recall the strike order. Secretary Davis's telegram said the strike was a violation of the agreement extending the Alschuler wartime pact, reached recently between the five big packers and their union employees, and concurred in by the Independent and Davies companies. (Wash. Post, Apr. 2.)

The aim of representatives of organized farmers and livestock producers who will meet in Washington the first week of the new Congress to frame a national farm policy and present it simultaneously to President Harding and Congress, will be to form the most compact working organization of agricultural interests which has ever operated in this country. They will ask:

Relief from present high railroad freight rates; amendment of the Esch-Cummins railroad law in the interests of the public and the consumer; packer control legislation; a curb on trading in grain futures; emergency tariff and tax revision; national aid to the cooperative marketing plans. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 2.)

Senator Smoot, chairman of the joint committee on Government reorganization, announces completion of the survey of all Government departments.

Arkansas Roads

"The Arkansas road scandal is receiving the attention of Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, under whose department the administration of the Federal road aid is placed. ...

"Secretary Wallace said that he will call for a complete report of the Arkansas situation, and from the tenor of his remarks it was plain that unless these Arkansas special district laws are changed so as to conform in every detail with the plans of the Federal Government, which means reducing the tax burden and placing the highway control in efficient hands, that the more than $4,000,000 of the Federal funds which have been allotted to Arkansas will remain in the Government vaults." (New York Times, Apr. 2.)

Beef Freezing Experiments

The British Department of Scientific and Industrial Research issues official report describing completed experiments of the meat committee of the Food Investigation Board upon the freezing of beef. The substance of this report is given in The Butchers' Advocate for March 30.

Cattle Growers' Association

Under the name of the Black Hills Cattle Growers' Association, a number of cattlemen with ranges in the Verde Valley west of the Verde River met recently with Supervisor Wales of the Forest Service, Prescott, Ariz., assistant Supervisor Munro and the rangers of the district, for the purpose of forming an organization for the furthering of mutual friendship, assistance and encouragement in efforts for best utilization of resources. The members pledged themselves to assist in enforcing state laws in relation to their industry and the Forest Service regulations. (Arizona Cattleman and Farmer, Mar. 21.)

Chilian Trade

How the advantage American exporters gained in Chile during the war is steadily slipping away and both British and German traders are getting back their old business, was told by speakers at a conference on Chilian commercial conditions by the Pan-American Advertising Association in New York March 31. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 1.)

China's Bean Trade

"A Line on How China Bean Trade is Conducted," is the title of an article in The Bean Bag for April.

Cotton

1. "Raw material is in a weaker position than goods, nevertheless there are a growing number who believe that the corner has been turned, and that it will be more profitable to purchase on any important declines than to sell on any sizable rallies. *** The supply of cotton on hand, while large, is now being gradually reduced, thus reducing the capital necessary for carrying it and making it possible for those who have cotton on hand to hold for somewhat higher prices." (American Wool and Cotton Reporter, Mar. 31.)

2. No attention has been given to the fact that all over the world the various cotton mills have either been idle or partly idle; that the stocks of cotton have been reduced to the minimum, and that a hand-to-mouth buying policy has been noted on goods for all of those involved in the distribution. What amount of cotton would be required to place manufacturers in a fair operating condition is not certain, but undoubtedly it would be at least 2,500,000 bales. (American Wool and Cotton Reporter, Mar. 31.)

The Arkansas road scheme is receiving the attention of Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, under whose department the administration of the Federal road aid is placed. ... "By [illegible] will call for a complete report of [illegible] and from the tenor of his remarks [illegible] those Arkansas special districts that are [illegible] in every detail with the [illegible] of the Federal Government, [illegible] hands, that [illegible] than $2,500,000 [illegible] which have [illegible] will [illegible] waste." ([illegible], p. 3.)

The [illegible] importance of [illegible] Preceding [illegible] of the most [illegible] of the Beef [illegible] upon the Breeding of Beef, [illegible] Advocate for [illegible].

Under the name of the Black Hills Cattle Growers' Association, a number of cattlemen with ranges in the Verde Valley [illegible] Verde River [illegible] recently [illegible] with Supervisor [illegible] of the [illegible] Prescott, Ariz., conducted [illegible] supervisor [illegible] the [illegible] for the purpose of forming an organization [illegible] of mutual friendship, cooperation and [illegible] in [illegible] best utilization of resources. The [illegible] is [illegible] state [illegible] in relation [illegible] the Forest Service regulations. (Arizona Cattleman [illegible], p. 21.)

For the [illegible] American exporters [illegible] is [illegible] no [illegible] difficulty [illegible] putting their [illegible], was [illegible] on Chile [illegible] cattle [illegible] 31. (Com. [illegible], p. 1.)

[illegible] April.

1. [illegible]

2. [illegible]

Cotton Freight Rate Cut

The Mallory and Morgan lines announce a reduction of 16 cents in the rate of cotton by water from Galveston to New York, or from 66 to 50 cents a hundred, effective May 10.
(Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 1.)

Fertilizers

While there is apparently little hope that the fertilizer situation will return to a normal condition during the spring season, it is generally believed by leading sellers of the material that the present chaotic condition will be righted some time during the coming three months. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 1.)

Freight Rates on Livestock

"National Livestock Exchange filed brief on March 30 with Interstate Commerce Commission supplementing its complaint against present railroad rules which base carload charges on livestock shipments upon the highest rate on any species in the car."
(Christian Science Monitor, Mar. 31.)

French Crops

Commerce Reports for March 30 reprints from the French Journal Official of March 5 a comparative statement of the condition and acreage of certain French field crops on February 1, 1921, as compared with the corresponding date of 1920.

French Industries

The Ministry of the Liberated Regions of France has each month since July 1, 1919, made a census of the industrial establishments, employing at least 20 persons. On January 1, 1921, out of 4484 establishments which employed 791,001 persons in 1914, 3,543 had begun work with a personnel of 365,450 employees, that is 462 per 1,000 of the total personnel employed in 1914.
(Bulletin de la Statistique General de la France, January, 1921.)

Fruit Loss

Loss in Cumberland-Potomac-Shenandoah fruit belt due to frost last Monday night will reach from $10,000,000 to $15,000,000, according to Cumberland Fruit Exchange. (Wall Street Jour. Apr. 1.)

Immigrant Farmers

Examples of successful farm colonies of immigrants in New Jersey are given in Pennsylvania Farmer for April 2, by L.G. Gillan, in article under title, "The Immigrant and Farming."

Japan Supports Rice and Silk

The Japanese Diet has just passed the rice bill and the silk bill, according to a cablegram received yesterday by the Department of Commerce. (Wall Street Jour., Apr. 1.)

Japanese Wool Imports

The imports of wool into Japan during 1920 were approximately 75,000,000 pounds, and half of this remains in storage, according to cablegram from Consul General at Yokohama. During 1919 Japan's imports of wool approximated 56,000,000 pounds, and in 1913 21,000,000 pounds. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 1.)

Lumber Costs

Lumber production costs still cling to their high levels in spite of the fact that more than half of the mills now running are doing so at a loss, Wilson Compton, secretary and manager of the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association told delegates to the annual lumber congress at Chicago, March 31.

Meat Consumption

Swift & Company is using full page advertising space in leading weekly and monthly magazines to encourage increased meat consumption.

Middleman and the Farmer

"The Farmer and the Middleman," is the title of an article by H. G. Kirby, in Pennsylvania Farmer for April 2, in which the writer states that he is coming more and more to appreciate the fact that the middleman performs a certain service which is necessary.

New Orleans Public Warehouse

The Board of Commissioners of the port of New Orleans and a special committee selected by the cotton interests of the port, including the New Orleans Cotton Exchange, have decided to employ a private manager to take charge of the publicly-owned and publicly-operated cotton warehouse and compress. Widespread complaint by all cotton interests of the city that "red tape" and "avoidable delays" in the public operation of the warehouse were putting the charges for handling cotton higher than at privately-owned warehouses, and that these high charges were driving cotton business away from New Orleans, brought about the investigation and the decision to change the method of operation of the warehouse. (Christian Science Monitor, Mar. 31.)

Phosphate in Texas

Referring to the discovery, made by the bureau of economic geology and technology of the University of Texas, that phosphate nodules exist in a geological formation which covers a considerable area in Texas, The American Fertilizer for March 26 says: "It is significant that in the French possessions of northern Africa one of the largest deposits of phosphate now being worked in the world is in identically the same formation as that from which these nodules were taken."

Potash

The Alsatian potash deposits are described in The American Fertilizer for March 26.

Sheep for Meat Production

"Better Profits from Market Lambs," is the title of an article in the Farmer and Stockman for March 24, by Dr. C. W. McCampbell of Kansas State Agricultural College, in which he says that farmers can afford to disregard the possible profits from wool and raise sheep for meat production.

Soil Fertility

"Nature of Soil Fertility," is the title of an article by G. S. Fraps, State Chemist, Texas Experiment Station, in which he states that under present agricultural conditions the fertility of the soil is largely being mined and exploited. The times require a change, he states, and it is for the best interest of the landlords, tenants and farmers who till their own land, to adopt methods which will maintain and increase soil fertility.

Standardized Containers Committee Formed

President Wilson of the Institute of American Meat Packers has appointed a committee on standardized containers. The purpose of the committee will be to take up the various styles and types of inner containers and by working with representatives of the American Meat Packers' Trade and Supply Association and government bureaus agree upon certain standards to be recommended for use by the membership. (The Butchers' Advocate, Mar. 30.)

Tariff and the South

"The South and Protection from the Standpoint of a Southerner," is the title of an article in Manufacturers Record for March 31, by P. Martin, Representative in Congress from the Third district of Louisiana. In this he says: "Change of sentiment has been slowly growing in the South for the past ten years, but the conditions that have prevailed for the past year have so crystallized and intensified this sentiment that the Southern farmers and manufacturers have been brought to a realization of the fact that they cannot compete with like products admitted into this country free of duty and produced by foreign cheap labor."

Tariff on Hides

"A tariff on hides would obviously divert the hides to countries without a tariff. A tariff, however, would put our tanneries under a disadvantage amounting exactly to the cost of the duty. Perhaps this would have no bad effect if we could also have a prohibitive tariff on leather and shoes, but it must be remembered that our tanning industry exports about 40 per cent of the leather produced in the United States, which is another factor. How will our tanners meet competition from countries without a tariff on hides in the sale of their leather?" (From letter of Texas hide dealer in Hide and Leather, Mar. 26.)

Tractors in Tunis

Before the war, Tunis possessed about 50 tractors and motor plows. Since the cessation of hostilities has made importation possible, the purchase of tractors has multiplied and at the end of 1919 there were more than 300. (Bulletin Mensuel de l'Office du Protectorat Francais Tunisie, Feb. 1921.)

Waterways

1. American waterways which might be developed for the benefit of transportation of agricultural products are the subject of an editorial under title, "An Undeveloped Resource," in today's Washington Herald.

2. At the International Joint Waterways Commission Hearings in Detroit on March 30, W. L. Harding, former governor of Iowa, said that 80 per cent of Iowa's 1920 corn crop still is in Iowa cribs because cars have not been available to move it. By utilizing a water route to Boston he said that the annual corn crop of 400,000,000 bushels could be moved with a great saving of cars. (Christian Science Monitor, March 31.)

Department of Agriculture

1. "The New Secretary of Agriculture; Farmers have a Vigorous Spokesman in Henry Cantwell Wallace," is title of editorial by J. Clyde Marquis in The Country Gentleman for April 2.

2. "A Wonderful Equity Speech," is title of editorial in the Equity News for March 23, on the recent statement of Secretary Wallace regarding the agricultural situation.

3. Editorial under title, "The New Administration and the Bean Industry," says in part: "The appointment of Henry C. Wallace as Secretary of Agriculture was particularly pleasing to bean men."

Bean Ind.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 10. April 4, 1921.

Washington Herald today publishes a comprehensive digest of facts and opinions prepared by the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland from its recent nation-wide business survey based on a questionnaire prepared after consultation with the leading economists and men in public life.

David F. Houston, former Secretary of the Treasury and of the Department of Agriculture, in a statement analyzing the country-wide survey of industrial, financial, agricultural and other economic conditions issued by the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland, declared that "the big national question is taxation, with peace settlement and international trade next." (Wash. Post, Apr. 4.)

Proposals involving exportation of 1,000,000 bales of American cotton to Germany and Belgium will be discussed today at conference to be held by War Finance Corporation with southern bankers, it was stated by members of Congress April 2. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 3.)

Vincent Hughes, head of the Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice, issued a statement at Atlanta last night regarding peonage conditions in Georgia, which is published in Washington Post, April 4.

B. M. Jewell, President of the railway employees' department of the American Federation of Labor, has been called to Washington to attend a conference called by President Harding to discuss the railroad situation. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 4.)

The strike of 1,300 employees of the Independent and William Davis Packing Companies at the Union stockyards, Chicago, was settled April 2 by Judge Altschuler, arbitrator. The men go back to work today. (Wash. Post, Apr. 3.)

Arkansas Road Law

New York Times for April 3 refers in extensive article to findings of Federal agent in Road Improvement District laws of Arkansas.

Canadian Exports

Canada experienced a loss of $56,000,000 in her exports, while her imports increased $296,000,000, in the twelve months ended February, 1921, as compared with the same time last year, according to figures compiled by Dominion Bureau of Statistics and issued April 1. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 2.)

Canadian Wheat

It is expected that navigation on the Great Lakes will open about April 15, and that by the time clear passage is opened between Fort William and the lower lakes 40,000,000 bushels of grain will be in store at Fort William and Fort Arthur and the bulk of it will be available for boat cargoes. (Consular report to Dept. of Commerce, April 1, in Jour. of Commerce, April 2.)

Canners' Association Development

Announcement has just been made of a new plan of membership in the National Canners' Association, according to the Journal of Commerce for April 2. Although the project is in its early stages, West Coast packers representing over 16,000,000 cases, in a single meeting signed applications for membership under the new plan. The main feature of the new plan is the enlargement of the extensive scientific work now being conducted.

Danish Butter

Danish butter, despite the protests of creamery men, seems to be working gradually into favor with the local trade, according to the Journal of Commerce for April 2. One of the largest cargoes of butter that ever came into New York port was unloaded on March 27 and 28 from steamer Oscar II. Her cargo consisted of 18,865 casks and 463 boxes, besides 124 cases of tinned butter for Cuba and Mexico.

Denver Enjoins Highway Commission

The City and County of Denver has filed an injunction suit in the district court to prevent the expenditure of any state highway funds in accordance with the highway budget of 1921, and to prevent the sale of $2,000,000 worth of good roads bonds, which the highway commission intended to expend from the $5,000,000 bond issue this year. The defendants are the State Highway Commission, the State Highway Commissioner, the State Auditor and the State Treasurer. (Municipal Facts for March.)

Farm Bureau and Fruit Grower

"The Farm Bureau and the Fruit Grower," is the title of an article by J. R. Howard, President, American Farm Bureau Federation, in American Fruit Grower for April. In this the author says: "Apart from the membership consideration, it may be well to point out that the American farmer has taken his most significant lesson in co-operation from the fruit grower."

Farm Implements' Prices

"Farmers will be interested in learning that some twenty of the manufacturers of farm implements and machinery have cut prices from fifteen to twenty per cent on farm implements such as plows, drills, hay presses, wagons, harrows, discs, etc., and from $100 to $300 on threshers and tractors," says editorial in The Wisconsin Agriculturist for April 2.

Farm Loan Banks

A.F. Lever, member of the Federal Fram Loan Board, is the author of a statement on the Farm Loan banks in The Farm Journal for April 2.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Farmers' Economic Needs

An editorial under title, "What Farmers Want," in The Country Gentleman for April 2 outlines some of the main wants of the farmers of America in connection with national legislation, finance and systems of marketing.

Freight Rates

An editorial view of the "Freight Rate Fight," is given by Samuel Adams, Editor, in American Fruit Grower for April.

Fruit Loss

Reported from Rogers, Ark., April 1 to Journal of Commerce, April 2, that a careful survey of the crop situation indicates that the unexpected freeze of Monday and Tuesday of last week practically ruined all fruits except strawberries, which were only slightly affected. Total loss will run into millions of dollars.

Horse Shortage

Aroused by the advance reports of the 1920 census that the supply of horses in the United States had decreased more than 2,000,000 in the last ten years, the Horse Association of America is planning to launch an intensive drive to encourage horse breeding as a factor in the country's economic development. (Wash. Star, Apr. 3.)

Importers' National Council

"With the object of protecting their interests against hostile legislation and obnoxious customs administrative laws, "the National Council of American Importers was formally organized in New York April 1. (Journal of Commerce, April 2.)

Irrigation of Colorado Basin

Project to irrigate 3,000,000 acres of desert land in the Southwest, known as the Colorado Basin, is described in New York Times for April 3, by Arnold Kruckman, Secretary of the League of the Southwest.

Jamaica Export Taxes

The legislative council at Kingston, Jamaica, has remitted the export tax on cocoanuts and cocoa, fully $1,000,000 worth of which is exported to the United States annually. The council also has reduced the tax on logwood extract in view of the keen competition of German dyes. (Wash. Star, Apr. 1.)

Labor

1. A conference of farmer and labor organizations will be held in Washington April 14 and 15 to frame a program of national legislation, it was announced last night by the People's Reconstruction League. This will be a different meeting from that of the farmers' organizations previously announced for April 14 to agree on a program to be asked of Congress. It was announced that the conference will discuss the railroad situation, Federal taxation, packer control legislation and short time rural credits. (Wash. Post, Apr. 4.)

2. Secretary of Labor Davis in an interview said "We find the most dominant question to contend with in the packers' industrial situation to be the high rents that are demanded in Chicago." (Wash. Star, Apr. 3.)

3. "What Must I Pay for Farm Help?" is the title of an article by E.H. Taylor in The Country Gentleman for April 2, which gives result of a nation-wide inquiry addressed to free employment directors and county agents in 42 states regarding 1921 farm-labor conditions.

Land Banks — "Again at Your Service; The Land Banks Have a Clean Road to Progress," is the title of an article by E. H. Thomson, President, Federal Land Bank of Springfield, Mass., in The Country Gentleman for April 2.

Marketing — "Credits for Crops," is the title of an interview with Bernard M. Baruch on better marketing for farmers, by James H. Collins, in The Country Gentleman for April 2.

Milk — Efforts of the dairy interests, which have for several seasons past been exercised in western legislatures to prevent the sale of "secondary milk," have invaded the East, and strong efforts are being made in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York to absolutely prohibit this class of food product. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 2.)

Negro Farm Land in Africa — Purchase of 8,000 acres of farm land in Portuguese west Africa for a demonstration farm and trades school for African negroes on the model of Hampton and Tuskegee institutes has been made by the board of foreign missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Purchase of this tract brings total acreage acquired by the Methodists in Africa above 25,000 acres. (Wash. Post, Apr. 3.)

Nitrogen Research Laboratory — Work of the Nitrogen Research Laboratory at Washington is described in Washington Star, April 3.

Oregon Growers Cooperative Association — The organization and development of the Oregon Growers Cooperative Association is reviewed in American Fruit Grower for April, by C. I. Lewis, Associate Editor.

Railroads — W. Jett Lauck, consulting economist for the unions, has ready for presentation to the Railroad Labor Board an exhibit prepared by a group of engineers supporting the claim that inadequacies and inefficiencies of railroad management add at least $1,000,000,000 annually to the expenditures of the United States. (New York Times, Apr. 4.)

Rodent Control in the Northwest — "Working Together to Swat the Varmints," is the title of an article by R. A. Ward, in The Farm Journal for April 2, which outlines the results of the state campaigns in the northwest against the native rodents.

Russo-British Trade Agreement — The full text of the Russo-Trade agreement as signed on March 16 by Sir Robert Horne, President of the Board of Trade, on behalf of the British Government, and H. Krassin, on behalf of the soviet Government, is given in Commerce Reports for March 31.

Scientific Research Agency — The National Research Council announces formation of "Science Service," a substantially endowed and non-profitmaking news corporation, sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences, for the purpose of familiarizing the general public with the progress of scientific research. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 4.)

South African Fruit — South Africa is rapidly developing as a powerful rival to California in the fruit markets of the world, according to Journal of Commerce for April 2.

South American Packing House Plan

Government expropriation of all packing houses in South America is the object of a plan being fostered by Uruguayan congressmen which provides for an international congress consisting of representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay, to study the best means whereby the government could take the packing business away from private owners and operate them for the benefit of the cattle raisers. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 8.)

Spanish Grain Duties

Reestablishment of customs duties on grain from abroad will be asked of the Spanish Government under the terms of a resolution adopted in Madrid April 1 at a meeting of delegates from grain growing districts. The agriculturists will promise to restock Spain with corn at a low price fixed by the Government if their request is granted. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 2.)

Tariff

The French official journal yesterday published a decreee signed March 30 increasing the duty on importations on numerous commodities. Article 11 provides that importations originating in the United States shall remain admissible under the terms of the previous general tariff. The increases will become immediately effective. Goods now in transport will be exempted from the new rates. (Wash. Post, Apr. 4.)

World Trade Conference

Every nation represented in Washington is to participate in the conference of ambassadors and ministers on world trade, to be held in New York city, May 16 to 18. (Wash. Star, Apr. 3.)

Department of Agriculture

1. The Farm Journal for April 2 contains an editorial on Secretary Wallace, entitled "Good Men in the President's Cabinet," and an article on the Secretary by Frank Moorehead.

2. "Secretary Wallace on a Farm Tariff," is the title of an editorial in The Journal of Commerce for April 2.

3. The Farm Journal for April 2 calls attention to an address on "The Agricultural Situation," by Dr. Henry C. Taylor.

Select List of New Books Added to Library

Andés, L.E. Animal fats and oils, and their practical production, properties, falsification and examination. 3d English ed.. by H.B. Stocks. London, 1920.

Chittenden, F.J. The garden doctor; plants in health and disease. London, New York, 1920.

Coêlho de Souza, W.W. Possibilities of cotton culture in Brazil. Rio de Janeiro, 1920. Published by the Ministry of agriculture, industry and commerce, Board of Information.

Ireland. Commission of inquiry into the resources and industries of Ireland. Ad interim report on milk production, March 1920. 3d ed.

----- Minutes of evidence ... December 1919. pt. 1. Milk-production and milk products. Fishery.

National association of state marketing officials. Reports of standing committees at annual meeting, 1920.

Stoddart, C.W. The chemistry of agriculture for students and farmers. 2d ed. Phila. & N.Y., 1921.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 11. April 5, 1921.

A beginning in formulating a program for aiding export trade was made yesterday at the conference held in Washington between representative bankers from twelve southern states and Secretaries Hoover and Mellon, as well as Governor Harding of the Federal Reserve Board and Directors of the War Finance Corporation.

The bankers were told that if they would enter export trade more actively they would have the moral support of the Government. The War Finance Corporation, it was said, would go to its limit to aid in the establishment of credits. (Press of April 5.)

Washington Herald today says: "The principal proposal at Mr. Meyer's conference with the southern bankers, stated very roughly and briefly, was that they should assess themselves a small sum, on the basis of the number of bales raised in each state, on the unsold cotton which they are now carrying under considerable embarrassment; that they should use the money so raised to form a cotton export association; that this export association should work with a foreign trade bank recently formed in New Orleans, and that by means of the two institutions they should ship that part of the cotton which is causing the greatest embarrassment to the banks, to warehouses in London, Hamburg, Marseilles, Genoa and other ports in Europe.

"Once the cotton is actually in Europe, many difficulties of marketing, inherent in the present state of exchange, will be eliminated, and the cotton will be, to that extent, more easily marketed."

Twelve independent packers in St. Louis, twenty-five members of the Packers and Manufacturers Association, and one Chicago cold storage company have notified the Department of Labor that they desire to become parties to the terms of the packers' wage and working conditions agreement concluded last month with the five leading packers in the Chicago district. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 5.)

Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday suspended, pending investigation, increased livestock loading charges, which the Atcheson, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Company held scheduled at Oklahoma City and Fort Worth, Texas. The proposed increase was from 50 cents to $1 per car. The suspension order will be operative until August. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 5.)

Arkansas Roads

The Committee on Local Legislation of the Arkansas State Bar Association has, with the approval of Governor McRae, drafted an amendment to the State Constitution which, if approved by the voters, will prohibit the State Legislature from passing "any local or special act." This will render impossible the future enactment of special road improvement district laws such as are now in force in Arkansas. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 5.)

Australian Trade

Trade of Australia with America is described in an article on Australian conditions in the Northwestern Miller for March 30. The American trade commissioner in Australia advances the view that "the great increase in America's exports to the Commonwealth, with the concurrent decrease in exports from Australia to the United States, has apparently created a position almost fatal to commerce between the two countries. He feels however that the situation is only temporary."

Brazil

"The economic resources and situation of Brazil" is the title of an article by Hon. Pedro Nunes de Sá, Consul of Brazil at Chicago, in the Economic World for April 2 in which he states that American exporters are losing ground in Brazil because of their methods.

Butter

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has postponed the effective date of the neutralized butter tax to May 1st. (The Farmer, April 2.)

Cotton

1. W. W. Morrison, secretary of the Galveston Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade, states that the crisis in the market seems to have been passed and settlements are proceeding on a reassuring basis. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 4.)

2. In an article on "Cotton: market conditions and prices" in the Economic World for April 2, A. R. Marsh expresses doubt "whether the actual reduction of the cotton acreage in the South will not be found, when it is ascertained, to fall substantially short of the expectations very commonly entertained of late" as great numbers of the smaller farmers are scarcely in a position to curtail at all, relying as they must upon their cotton crop for the best part of their livelihood.

3. Community cotton planting is the subject of an article in Farm and Ranch for April 2.

Farmer Organizations

Non-stock, non-profit associations are reviewed in Wallace's Farmer for April 1.

Federal Sales Tax

1. Formation of the Farmers' Federal Tax League of America, which will oppose the Federal sales tax, is announced by Eugene Frey, of Argyle, Ills., secretary and treasurer of the organization. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 4.)

2. "The powerful inflationary influence of the proposed federal sales tax," is the title of an article by F. W. Burrows in the Economic World for April 2.

Feedstuffs "The Situation in Feedstuffs," is the title of a survey of supplies and prices, by Sanders Sosland, in The Ohio Farmer for April 2.

Florida and the Tariff Sidney J. Catts, former Governor of Florida writes of Florida and the Tariff in Southern Tariff Advocate for April.

Food Control The British Food Controllers' De-Control Offer is discussed in the Millers' Gazette, London, for March 23.

Freight Rates Readjustment of export rates on grain and grain products carrying a reduction of 3 cents east of Chicago was recommended to the railroads yesterday by the Interstate Commerce Commission. (Wash. Post, Apr. 5.)

Goats An article in the Bulletin des Halles of March 15 comments on the failure of the French Ministry of Agriculture to include goats in its enumeration of live stock on December 31, 1920. It states that the hour has come to intensify goat breeding if only to save France from being obliged to import kid skins for gloves and fine shoes in the near future.

Horses 1. "Draft Horse Future Looks Brighter," is the title of an article in Wallace's Farmer for April 1, by Carl N. Kennedy, who states that there are two fundamental factors that should encourage horse breeding at the present time -- that production has not kept up with the need of stock for replenishment, and that the present price of feed reduces materially the cost of upkeep.

2. "The announcement that the Chicago Board of Trade has just appropriated $2500 to further the work of the Horse Association of America is of far-reaching significance. It means that the greatest grain market in the world has recognized the menace from the displacement of horses and mules by motors."
(Amer. Horse Breeder, Mar. 30.)

Labor Reports from all parts of Ohio indicate that farm labor is plentiful and will be available at a lower price than last year, states an editorial in The Ohio Farmer for April 2. It says that Mr. Callander, statistician for the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, reports that while the average wage for farm labor last year was $65 per month with board, it will not be over $40 with board this year.

Live Stock Statistics "Live Stock Statistics," is the title of an editorial in Wallace's Farmer for April 1, which says in part: "One of the most important tasks for the Farm Bureau Federation is to help work out some plan that will give us more reliable statistics as to live stock production both at home and abroad, and as to conditions which influence consumption. *** The Farm Bureau cannot gather this information through its own organization. *** The state Farm Bureaus would do better to work with the state and government officials who have had experience at this sort of work."

Packers' Report

Irregular trade movements during March affected the packing industry adversely and the month ended as one of the poorest periods in the history of the industry, according to a business review made by Armour and Co. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 4.)

Peanut Industry in the South

The place of the peanut in the industrial life of the South is outlined by John B. Pinner in Southern Tariff Advocate for April.

Potash

The American potash situation is reviewed by Frederick W. Brown in Southern Tariff Advocate for April. He states that heavy importations from Germany have come to a market already stocked, with the result that prices have fallen to a level which American producers cannot meet at present.

Pure Bred Livestock in Kentucky

Farmers Home Journal for March 25 states that the launching of the campaign last month for better grade cattle by the Kentucky Pure Bred Livestock Exchange is followed by an announcement of a similar movement to encourage sheep production, which will be carried out in August, and a better swine drive set for late in the autumn.

Roumanian Wheat

Correcting its report of March 28, the International Institute of Agriculture, Rome, gives the acreage of wheat this year in Roumania as 4,646,000 acres, an increase of 5.3 per cent over last year.

Sugar

1. The Cuban sugar production for the current season, up to March 26, amounted to 1,448,095 long tons, and for the corresponding period in 1918-19 the production was 1,684,116 tons. At this rate the current season's crop would be 3,735,000 tons or about 5,000 more than last year, and 235,000 less than the record crop of 1918-19. (Willett and Gray's Weekly Statistical Sugar Trade Journal, March 31.)

2. The United States is said now to be the cheapest sugar market in the world, and evidences of it are seen in the recent considerable exports of sugar from Cuba to China and Australia, states The Louisiana Planter for April 2.

3. The organization of the Sugar Corporation of India, Limited, described as one of the most important movements in the sugar industry that has ever been recorded, is reviewed in The Louisiana Planter for April 2.

Tariff and the Beet Sugar Industry

"Effect of tariff policy on the beet sugar industry; factors encouraging and retarding the growth of production since 1897," is the title of an article by Truman G. Palmer, in Facts about Sugar for April 2.

Tariff on Cuban Sugar

Feeling in Cuba is strongly against proposed increase in duty on sugar coming into the United States, says Wall Street Journal, April 2.

Tenancy and Values

"Tenancy and High Land Values," is the title of an article in Wallace's Farmer for April 1, which presents two maps showing, respectively, percentage increase in land values since 1910, and percentage increase or decrease since 1910 in tenancy.

Walnuts in France

The cultivation of walnuts is one of the principal industries in the Lyon consular district, the annual yield being about 5,000 tons, according to Commerce Reports for April 1. The yield for the whole of France is generally estimated at 50,000 tons a year.

Wheat

"Is the wheat belt passing from Minnesota," is the title of an article by Prof. Andrew Boss in The Farmer for April 2.

Wool

1. The Annual Wool Supplement of the Daily News Record, N.Y. was published April 4.

2. Cables to Boston from Sydney April 2 state that the sales which were scheduled to commence there April 4 have been postponed. It is understood there has been a disagreement between London and Australia as to the proper upset prices. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 4.)

Wool Pools

The Live Stock Marketing Department of the Illinois Agricultural Association is making arrangements for the handling of the wool to be placed in the Illinois wool pool of 1921. The method of handling the wool in the counties is expected to be much the same in 1921 as in 1920. The Live Stock Marketing Department is getting figures on sacks and twine and plans to issue a circular of detailed instructions to County Farm Advisers within the next week or ten days.

Department of Agriculture

1. "Secretary Wallace on the Future of the Farmer," is the title of an article in the Commercial and Financial Chronicle for April 2, commenting on his statement on the Agricultural Situation.

2. An editorial on "Commerce and Agriculture Abroad" in The Farmer for April 2 says in part: "The Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture with very limited means has undertaken some work in the investigation of our foreign trade in agricultural products, and with excellent results. While Secretary Hoover is building up our foreign trade in the products of industry, we suggest that steps be taken to add to his duties, or to assign these duties to Secretary Wallace of the Department of Agriculture, the investigation of the extension of our foreign trade in agricultural products."

3. "The Farmer Takes the Affirmative," is the title of an editorial in Farmer and Breeder for April 1, which says in part: "Secretary Wallace is in hearty sympathy with the efforts of farmers to work out their own salvation through improved systems of marketing."

4. Secretary Wallace is the subject of an editorial under title, "Take the Affirmative," in The Idaho Farmer for March 31.

5. "Wallace Starting Right," is the title of an editorial in The Ozark Countryman for April 1.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 12. April 6, 1921.

Following the conference of southern bankers with government officials yesterday with regard to relief for the cotton industry and the banks of the southern states, the War Finance Corporation announced tentative approval of an application for a loan of $100,000 to a southern bank for European cotton support.

It was indicated that this is the first step in a concerted effort of the southern bankers, aided by the War Finance Corporation, to break the stagnation in the market for cotton and food products, and to start a steady stream of these commodities flowing to Europe.

Stated that the shipment of cotton authorized yesterday will go chiefly to France, Italy and England. (Press of Apr. 6.)

Elaboration of plan for an advisory council to the Department of Commerce composed of representatives of the great industries of the country was discussed yesterday at a conference of a committee from the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and Secretary Hoover. Mr. Hoover stated that the advisory council will include representatives of agricultural interests and of the American Federation of Labor. (Press of Apr. 6.)

The Committee of Seventeen, after six months of study of grain distribution and marketing, met at Chicago April 5 prepared to submit a proposal for the cooperative marketing of grain to farmer delegates who will gather there today. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 6.)

More than 200 delegates, representing every state and fruit-growing locality in the country, met in Chicago yesterday to attend meeting of Fruit Growers' Association. A resolution was discussed proposing a committee of 21 should investigate marketing, transportation problems and the cultivation of fruit, also the drafting of a plan for cooperative selling.
(Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 6.)

Protest against the proposed increase in import duties on sugar and tobacco was made in a conference which representatives of Cuban-American sugar and tobacco interests held yesterday with Under Secretary of State Fletcher.
(N. Y. Times, Apr.6.)

British Food Ministry

The operations of the British Food Ministry during and since the war involved a turnover of more than 1,000,000,000 pounds and the ministry's net profit on it amounted to less than one-tenth of 1 per cent. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 5.)

Canada's Pulp and Paper Exports

Canadian pulp and paper exports for February were valued at $8,668,815, compared with $9,391,927 in February 1920, and were $994,239 below those of January, 1921. (Commerce Reports, Apr.2.)

Chrysanthemum Seed

A shipment of 450 tons of chrysanthemum seed has just arrived in the United States from the Orient. (Shipping, March 25.)

Cotton

The inclinations toward steadiness visible in cotton futures trading, during the final dealings on Monday, were generally ascribed to the constructive tenor of the news from Washington; favorable comment was heard on the pledges of Government support. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 5.)

Flax in Ireland

A statement submitted to the British Parliament on March 3,1921, reported that the acreage of flax in Ireland was 59,305 in 1913 and 127,198 in 1920; that the quantity of flax imported in 1913 was 40,982 long tons and in 1920 9,858 tons; that the average selling price for flax in 1913 was 7s. 2 1/4d. per stone ($1.75 per 14 pounds) and in 1920 39s. 5d. ($9.59 at normal exchange) per stone. (Commerce Reports, April 1.)

Foreign Credit

"Is the Edge Law Inadequate to Promote Foreign Trade?" is the title of an editorial by R. H. Tingley, in The Annalist for April 4, which states that suspension of activity by the $100,000,000 corporation calls attention to difficulties of the debenture method without privileges enjoyed by British prototypes.

Forestry Law of New York

Details of New York's forestry law, now before the state legislature, are given in American Lumberman for April 2.

French Agriculture

Ninety per cent of the lands devastated by the war are now being cultivated in France, according to report in Wash. Herald, April 6.

French Export Financing

Details of the French scheme for export credits is given in the Federal Trade Information Service for April 5, 1921. Advances will be made up to 80 per cent of the value of the goods exported, the exporter taking the balance of 20 per cent himself. The maximum time limit of these advances will be three years.

Ghent Cotton Warehouse

In the interest of the cotton trade a series of large sheds capable of warehousing hundreds of thousands of bales of cotton are to be erected along the quays of the Grand Bassin at Ghent. The Brokers are also taking steps to increase the imports of raw cotton. (London Economic Review, Mar. 25.)

Goat and Kid Skins

Trade in goat and kid skins in the Netherland East Indies for 1913 to 1918, inclusive, and from Java and Madura for 1919, is reported in Commerce Reports for April 4.

Industrial Analysis

In an analysis of the industrial situation, by D.R. Forgan, Pres. of National City Bank of Chicago, in Commercial West for April 2, he says: "As one half of our population lives by agriculture, the situation in that sphere of labor is fundamental. The industrial conditions just described were preceded, or accompanied by a shrinkage in the value of last year's crops estimated at $5,000,000,000 and live stock suffered a corresponding decline in value."

Labor

The first of a series of hearings of grievances of stockyards workers was started in Chicago yesterday before Federal Judge Alschuler, arbitrator for the packers and their employees. The representatives of 1,200 former employees of 12 independent packing companies and Morris and Co., charged that when the men struck last month the companies employed new forces. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 6.)

Lemon Oil

Attempts are being made in Messina to form a cooperative society which will control the lemon oil industry with a view to preventing excessive price fluctuations. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 5.)

Maguey Sugar

Manufacturing sugar from the juice of the maguey plant may become a big industry in Mexico as a result of successful experiments. Many thousands of acres are devoted to maguey plantations in the southern part of the country. The plants have been devoted heretofore to the production of pulque, alcohol and sirup. It is said the sugar produced in the experiments was high grade and that the cost of manufacture is less than that of cane sugar. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 5.)

Mexican Agricultural Census

"The Mexican Department of Agriculture and Promotion is selecting a staff of forty-two inspectors for taking an agricultural census whic is being commenced at the same time as the census of population." (Mexico for April 1.)

Marketing

The Report of the Maryland Agricultural Society for 1920 (vol. 5) contains the following articles on marketing: Address by J.R. Howard; Address by Gray Silver; A resumé of progress in cooperative marketing in Maryland, by F.B. Bomberger; Marketing tomatoes, by J.E. Patten; Marketing milk, by D.G. Harry; Marketing, the fundamental business, by G.H. Stevenson; Marketing program for Maryland; Address, by Charles A. Lyman; Modern marketing methods, by J. F. Deegan; Federal inspection service, by W.A. Sherman; Wastage of fresh fruits and vegetables in transit and storage, by F.C. Meier; The handling of surplus plants, by D. L. James; The handling and marketing of western cantaloupes, by W. A. Sherman; The Ohio plan of marketing wool, by J. F. Walker.

Mexican Irrigation

The government of the State of Chihuahua is now making preparations to irrigate an area of two hundred thousand hectares, which is the largest unbroken surface to be irrigated in Mexico. (Mexico, v. 1, no. 13, Apr. 1, 1921.)

Potash

An agreement has been reached in Berlin between the German potash syndicate and U. S. Commissioner Dresel, representing a substantial part of the American fertilizer industry, under which the German interests offer a bonus or rebate of 45 per cent payable in potash to American importers in return for 5 year contracts covering 80 per cent of their requirements. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 5.)

Potash (Cont'd.)

Another article in the same issue states that comments heard April 4 were to the effect that there is some doubt that enough support for the proposal will be forthcoming from consumers to put it through.

Potatoes in Montana

"Marketing the Flathead Spud," is the title of an article by G. C. Wooster, in The Montana Farmer for April 1, which describes potato marketing methods of the Northwest Potato Exchange.

Price Movements

Security price movements after the Civil War and now are reviewed by Franklin W. Tracy in The Annalist for April 4.

Production

"You Can Lose Money Even Now by Cutting Production," is the title of an article by L.E. Call, Agronomist in Charge, Kansas State College of Agriculture, in Farm and Fireside for April.

Raisin Control

California Associated Raisin Co. April 4 announced control of 92 per cent of the coming crop, according to Journal of Commerce, April 5.

Rural Credits in Canada

Action by the provincial government of Ontario has been taken for creation of a system of rural credits to aid agricultural development in Ontario. On recommendation of the Minister of Agriculture the province has set aside an initial fund of $500,000 which will be used for purchase of bonds issued by the agricultural development board for long term loans on first mortgages. (Wash. Herald, Apr.5.)

Swedish Export Consortium

A cablegram from Stockholm says that the press announces the formation of a large Swedish export concern known as the Export Consortium, for trading with Soviet Russia, its main object being to centralize trade and standardize contracts.
(Federal Trade Information Service, Apr. 5.)

Tobacco

The season's sales of 62,000,000 pounds of tobacco make Wilson, N. C., the largest loose leaf market in the world, according to Wall Street Journal, Apr. 4.

Tractor Industry

"Present Possibilities and Future of the Tractor Industry," an analysis of the needs and purchasing power of the farmers by the editor of Chilton Tractor Journal appears in Commercial West for April 2.

Trade Relations

"The Anti-Dumping Mania," is the title of an editorial in The Journal of Commerce for April 5, which says: "What is dumping? The tendency at present seems to be to regard it as the importation and sale of goods below the level at which like goods can be domestically produced and placed on the market."

Wheat Prices

1. A graph showing the spread of wheat prices covering 60 years is given in Business Conditions, Seventh Federal Reserve District, Mar. 31. The graph is based on Chicago Board of Trade Records.

2. "No bids have been offered and no quotations published in the wheat market at Portland, Oregon, since March 31, owing to the low prevailing prices. Offers made in the surrounding country April 2 were said to be as low as 90 & 95 cents a bushel.(Wash.Herald,Apr.6.)

Wisconsin Honey

Wisconsin's honey crop in 1920 was worth a million dollars, according to a report by Joseph A. Becker of the Wisconsin Cooperative Crop Reporting Service, based upon reports from members of the Wisconsin Beekeepers' Association. (The Wisconsin Agriculturist, Apr. 2.)

Wool Marketing

Negotiations for the sale of South African wool to Germany have been successful. The Imperial Government has offered to purchase up to 100,000 bales of last season's crop of South African wool, the schedule of prices for the various types of wool to be the schedule of 1913-14 prices. (Commercial reports, Apr. 2.)

Select List of New Books Added to Library

American fruit and vegetable shippers' association. Reports of the general transportation committees at the 3d annual business meeting, Chicago, Jan. 19-21, 1921.

Benedict, F.G., and Talbot, F.B. Metablism and growth from birth to puberty. 1921. (Carnegie institution, Publication 302)

Henderson, I. F., and Henderson, W.D. A dictionary of scientific terms. Edinburgh, 1920.

International federation of master cotton spinners' and manufacturers' associations. International cotton statistics; consumption of cotton for half-year ending 31st, Jan. 1921, and stocks of cotton in spinners' hands on 1st Feb. 1921. Manchester, 1921.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 13. April 7, 1921.

More than 500 farmers from every grain-producing section in the United States met at Chicago yesterday to consider marketing plans proposed by the Farmers' Grain Marketing Committee of Seventeen. No definite action was taken at the first day's session, but after the committee's report was read much of the discussion hinged upon the method of handling the wheat.

In the plan formulated by the committee there are two contracts set forth, the first running from the farmer to the farmers' cooperative elevator, the second from the elevator to the central agency. The farmer signing the contract must sell his grain exclusively to these agencies for five years, renewable thereafter from year to year.

With a few changes, it is generally believed that the committee's plan will be ratified today and further steps will be taken immediately to put the new system into operation as soon as possible.

Secretary Wallace, in speaking at the convention at Chicago yesterday, assured the farmers of government assistance in the marketing of their grain. "There is just as much reason why the Department should assist the farmer in developing methods of marketing his crops efficiently as that it should assist him in increasing his production," he said. (Press of Apr. 7.)

A program of legislation for farmers is to be mapped out next week by members of the Senate and House agricultural committees in cooperation with representatives of national agricultural associations who will be in session at Washington.

Senator Capper said yesterday that it was hoped to evolve an agrarian legislative budget upon which all interests would agree. He said that prospective features of the farmers' legislation include the Fordney emergency tariff bill, a bill for cooperative marketing by farmers, a law to regulate future trading in agricultural products, the packer control bill, a bill for standardization of weights and measures and government regulation of cold storage. (Wash. Post, Apr. 7.)

A bid for American business is being made by the German potash trust, according to the Department of Commerce. The German Kali syndicate has offered $2,000,000 worth of potash in rebates to American importers who bought German potash last year, provided they agree to buy 80 per cent of their potash from the syndicate for the next five years. (Press of Apr. 7.)

Canadian Meat Production

Mention in a Chicago meat trade review that the wholesale price of heavy bacon of standard grade was 50 per cent below that of light, fancy bacon draws extended comment from the Industrial and Development Council of Canadian Meat packers, which is trying to do a constructive work among Canadian livestock raisers to increase and improve Canadian meat production. (The National Provisioner, Apr.2.)

Cocoa Prices

Among important food commodities that have fallen in price since the signing of the armistice to levels below the lowest in prewar times are cocoa beans and their products, cocoa powder, chocolate and cocoa butter. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 6.)

Cotton

Cotton growers of the Salt River Valley have been advised by H. M. Cottrell of the Arkansas Profitable Farming Bureau to go slow in changing to truck crops. It is reported that the cotton acreage in the valley has dropped this year from 185,000 acres to 75,000 acres. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 6.)

Daylight Saving

Daylight saving has gone into effect in Great Britain, clocks being moved ahead one hour. (New York Commercial, Apr. 4.)

Electric Power for Farmers

"What Do Power Company Officials Want?" is the title of an article by N. L. Chapin in Rural World for April 1, in which are discussed the officials' aims and policies as they affect electric power rates on the farm. States that the power-rate question, taken as a whole, is of such momentous import that no interest in California, certainly not the farmers', could afford to take other than a broad viewpoint. "We must have electric power," the author says; "we cannot do without it. It must be paid for."

Embargo on Cattle

The embargo on Canadian cattle is discussed in the Manchester Guardian for March 23. It is frankly recognized that the reason for the embargo is the desire of the British agricultural interests to keep up meat prices.

Farm Implement Prices

Price reductions are the subject of an editorial in Farm Implements and Tractors for March 30, which says: "Apparently the course adopted by the manufacturers is the result of psychological conditions rather than manufacturing conditions."

Feeding Stuffs Legislation

The Operative Miller for April outlines the recently revised features of the Feeding Stuffs law of New York state.

Government Wool and Cotton Sale

Twenty-two firms April 5 submitted bids at Boston on the wool and cotton yarns offered by the Surplus Property Division of the War Department. Of these only six bids were on the wool yarns. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 6.)

Grain Transportation

The Grain Dealers' National Association has established a transportation department, with W. K. Vandiver formerly of U. S. Railroad Administration, as a transportation commissioner. (Operative Miller, April.)

Handling Costs

"The Handling Problem, and What Cost Accounting Has Revealed," is the title of an article by Chester B. Carruth, in Distribution and Warehousing for April. It states in part that it costs 150 per cent more to handle a 100-pound bag of domestic scoured wool than it does to handle a 100-pound bag of beans and that it costs 14 per cent more to handle small packages than large ones of certain commodities.

Horses

"Do We Need Horses in California?" by Hamilton Bassett is the title of the leading article in Rural World for April 1. This says in part: "In the last two years there has been shipped out of California, ended with the fiscal year June 30, 1919, a total of horses and mules worth almost $27,500,000, and the average value was about $175. It is a most significant fact that at the present time the Japanese are maintaining a stud for the breeding of cavalry mounts just east of Santa Rosa."

Italian Agriculture

Position and prospects of agriculture in Italy are reviewed in the British Board of Trade Journal for March 24. In conclusion, it states that "the important hydro-electric plants which are being constructed in various parts of Italy will give a great impetus to agriculture by assuring a greater measure of security as regards irrigation. Assurance of progress is also given by the increased national production of chemical fertilisers and agricultural machinery, and the establishment of new schools and traveling boards for the education of farmers in up-to-date cultivation."

Kansas Mills

Rules and regulations governing all mills in Kansas, as issued by Industrial Court of Kansas, are given in American Miller for April 1.

Livestock

The Aberdeen Angus Journal for April 4th contains an editorial on the Country Gentleman pure bred articles in which it states that "the men hardest hit are in many cases the ones who followed the siren of record sales, and their punishment is coming to them. What such papers and their readers should not forget, however, is that both the world's record sales and the practices now being shown up were but incidents in a great business that annually totals around a quarter of a billion of dollars and in which is invested something over a billion of dollars in the United States alone. Where there are a dozen or so of that kind of men in each breed, there are thousands of solid, constructive business farmers and breeders who are advancing their breeds and American agriculture."

Nitrates

Results of a general meeting of members of the British Sulphate of Ammonia Federation with Representatives of the German Nitrogen Syndicate with regard to the quantitites of nitrogen available for export from the various producing countries for the 1921-22 season are given in Journal of Commerce, April 6.

Ocean Rate Increase

Final agreement to stabilize ocean rates between North Atlantic and European ports at increases varying from 25 per cent to 200 per cent above the present level probably will be reached late this week by steamship lines in the North Atlantic trade, according to Shipping Board. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 6.)

Raisin Control — Independent raisin packers of Southern California state that they expect to make complaint to the Federal Trade Commission concerning the further assumption of control of the coming crop by the California Associated Raisin Co. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 6.)

Sled Law in North Dakota — The dealers in North Dakota were successful in their efforts to have the sled law in that state amended in such a way that foreign corporations cannot ship narrow track sleds into the state in competition with local dealers, who are compelled to sell wide track sleds exclusively. (Farm Implements and Tractors, March 24.)

South African Wool Sale — Wool interests at Port Elizabeth, South Africa, have approved the plan of selling some 60,000 bales of old wool to the British Government to be handled in England by the British-Australian Wool Realization Association. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 6.)

Southern Bankers Conference — "Helping the Farmer and Exporter," is the title of an extensive editorial in Journal of Commerce, April 6 on the recent conference between government officials and representatives of southern cotton interests and others.

Strawberry Wine — Strawberry wine will be manufactured in Hammond and other Louisiana parishes through the efforts of the Strawberry Growers' Selling Co., says dispatch to Philadelphia Public Ledger for April 7.

Sugar

1. British Ministry of Agriculture states that Home Grown Sugar, Limited, the company in which the Ministry holds half the share capital, has closed its list of contracts with farmers who have agreed to grow sugar beet during the present year. The capacity of the factory is 60,000 tons of beet. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 6.)

2. All restrictions upon importations of sugar into Great Britain and all regulations with regard to distribution, dealings and prices of sugar ceased after February 28. (Board of Trade Journal, Feb. '21)

Tariff

1. The Foreign Trade Association of the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce will oppose passage of the Fordney emergency tariff bill on the ground that its enactment would be inimical to American interests abroad. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 7.)

2. The French minister of agriculture announced yesterday that it was necessary to increase the customs duties on agricultural imports, especially on sugar, to protect French farmers until prewar production has been attained. (Wash. Post, Apr. 7.)

Texas Oil Mills — Texas oil mills are shutting down for the season, most of them with the intention of not making any clean up later on. (Fort Worth Corres. in Nat'l Provisioner, Apr. 2.)

Warehousing

1. Dr. E. F. Ladd, U.S. Senator, said in a recent statement that the Government must construct storage warehouses and terminal elevators on the Great Lakes, on the Gulf of Mexico, on the Atlantic Seaboard and on the Pacific, and should have similar warehouses and elevators at interior points to receive and distribute farm products, if the nation's agricultural marketing problem is to be solved. (Distribution and Warehousing, March, 1921.)

Warehousing (Cont'd)

2. In furtherance of the cooperative movement between the merchandise warehouse industry and the manufacturers who distribute through public storage plants there have been appointed two committees which will hold conferences in the interest of standardization and uniformity in business relationship. (Distribution and Warehousing, April.)

3. Warehousing will be discussed in its relation to distribution on the convention program arranged by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States at Atlantic City, April 27-29. (Distribution and Warehousing, April.)

Wheat

About a quarter of the wheat receipts at Minneapolis have been Canadian and the expectation is that the opening of lake navigation this month will see a good deal of it shipped to United States destinations. (American Miller, Apr. 1.)

Wool Pool in Utah

Organization of a pool for the marketing of the 1921 clip of Utah Wool has been perfected by the marketing committee of the Utah State Farm Bureau and the directors of the Utah Wool Growers' Association. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 6.)

Conventions and Exhibitions

1. The National Academy of Sciences will hold its session in Washington April 25-27.

2. Convention of American Oil Chemists' Society will be held in Chicago, May 16 and 17.

3. Convention of Interstate Cotton Crushers' Association will be held in Chicago, May 18-20.

4. The dates for the International Exhibition at Riga of Agricultural Machinery and Products are given as either 15th July to October 1, or August 1 to October 15, states British Board of Trade Journal for March 24.

5. An agricultural exhibition will be held at Prague under the auspices of the Czecho-Slovak Agricultural Union from May 12 to 17 this year, reports British Board of Trade Journal for March 24.

Select List of New Books Added to Library

American association for international conciliation. International conciliation. no. 154. Sept. 1920. Contents. -
I. The National research council, by Vernon Kellogg.
II. The international organization of scientific research, by G. E. Hale.
III. The international union of learned societies, by W. G. Leland.

Lloyd, J. T. The biology of the North American caddis fly larvae. 1921. (Bulletin of the Lloyd Library no. 21. Ent. ser. no. 1.)

Marchand, Werner. The early stages of Tabanidae (horse flies). 1920. (Rockefeller institute. Monograph no. 13)

Tinkler, C. K., and Masters, Helen. Applied chemistry. v. 1. London, '20

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 14. April 8,1921.

An all-day discussion of the new grain marketing plan proposed by the Committee of Seventeen engaged the delegates to the farmers' conference at Chicago yesterday, and no decision was reached on the question whether growers would sell their grain under a compulsory or optional pooling system.

Practically all the delegates agreed that the ideal system of marketing would be through a pool, but they were apparently about equally divided concerning the possibility of carrying out a compulsory pooling system. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 8.)

A poll of the Committee of Seventeen on the grain-pooling proposal showed twelve for optional pooling, four for compulsory pooling and one, a Government employee, not voting, according to Chairman Gustafson. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 8.)

Creation of a department of communications, with a consequent saving to the Government of millions of dollars annually, is expected to result from a series of conferences in which representatives of the State, War, Navy, Agriculture, Post Office and Commerce departments are taking part. The initial meeting was held yesterday, at which unification of existing systems were discussed. The general scheme provides for the centralization of all the telegraph, telephone and radio activities of the Government. (Wash. Post, Apr. 8.)

Permission to make provisional reduction of the wages of unskilled labor on the New York Central Railroad was denied by the Railroad Labor Board yesterday. The dispute between the New York Central and the unskilled labor employees over a permanent reduction in wages will be heard on April 18 in connection with other disputes which have been filed with other railroads. (Wash. Star, Apr. 7.)

Farmers of the Northwest and far west are interesting themselves actively in the organization of the foreign trade financing corporation, the largest of the Edge law banks, according to word from J. R. Howard, President of the American Farm Bureau Federation. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 8.)

Argentine Cattle Imports

The Argentine government is preparing a decree prohibiting the importation of cattle or forage from Brazil, as a result of the appearance of the epizootic among the cattle herds in the southern states of Brazil. The Argentine Government's action follows a similar prohibition imposed by the government of Uruguay. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 7.)

Argentine Cereals

The present exportable surplus of cereals from Argentina, which includes the recent harvest, is estimated in metric tons officially as follows: 2,800,000 wheat and flour; 640,000 linseed; 400,000 oats. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 5.)

Argentine Cotton

There is nothing new in the statement from Buenos Aires that those interested in cotton cultivation say there is a potential cotton belt in Northern Argentina, Southern Paraguay and Bolivia as large as the cotton belt of the United States, according to the Manufacturers Record for April 7.

It substantiates this statement by summarizing an article written for its pages several years before his death by the late Edward Atkinson, who had studied the climatic conditions and labor supply of all the cotton-growing regions of the world and after outlining some of the possibilities of cotton raising in Argentina had come to the conclusion it would be fifty years at least from that time before there could be any serious competition anywhere with the South's practical cotton monopoly.

Argentine Sheep

Patagonian flocks are being rapidly diminished and next year will see a greatly reduced production of the "Southern Territories" grades of Argentine wool. Eight packing houses will slaughter 2,000,000 sheep before the season closes. (Daily News Record, Apr. 7.)

Butter and Eggs

The storage stocks of butter have been worked down to a low point, but it has been a losing year for the operators. Prices are about where they were a month ago, and represent a loss of about 20 cents per pound upon the stored supply. The egg dealers did very well on the stocks put into storage in the Spring months of 1920, and which were closed out early in the Winter, but they have been punished on recent purchases. Eggs have been accumulating and have dropped steadily from 71 cents per dozen to 26 cents, which is the price ruling at this time. The Spring crop of eggs is coming in, and will go into storage about 20 cents per dozen lower than last year. (Circular of the National City Bank of New York. April.)

Chilean Import Duties

Chile has increased import duties 50 per cent, a bill to that effect receiving the approval of the Council of State on Feb. 24. Exempted from its provisions are rice, coffee, sugar, burlap, gasoline, locomotives and industrial machinery. (Current History, April.)

Cooperative Congress

A report of the All-American Cooperative Congress held at Cleveland, February 10 to 12, 1921, is given in the Monthly Labor Review for March. Among the resolutions passed was one which "favors a system of Federal and State laws on cooperation that will permit any cooperative organization to transact any business that corporations can, without limitation as to the amount of stock held by any individual member, provided that such stockholder has only one vote."

Cooperative Congress (Cont'd)

A resolution was also passed indorsing the principle of collective bargaining for farmer and labor alike.

Cotton

1. Due to losses suffered by planters of Georgia on last year's crop and the desire to bring about increased prices, there will be a reduction in the Georgia cotton crop this year of approximately 30 per cent, according to the belief of Atlanta bankers and cotton men. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 8.)

2. The latest world-cotton census conducted by Arno S. Pearse shows that there are 151,658,854 estimated spindles in the world, of which only 129,462,390 were active during the latter half of 1921; that the world's consumption for the half year ended Jan. 31, 1921, totaled only 7,720,446 bales; that the stocks of cotton in spinners' hands on Jan. 31, 1921 totaled 3,644,122 bales, of which 1,257,000 were in the United States. (Daily News Review, Apr. 6.)

3. The news of the past week has justified no change of opinion regarding an ultimate revival of activity and values for cotton, but has had a disturbing effect on sentiment as to the immediate market. The hope of an improving export outlet has been disturbed by the British coal strike, the refusal of this country to consider trade relations with Russia under prevailing conditions, the German news, and in a minor measure, the attempt of former Emperor Charles to reestablish his rule in Hungary. (Commerce and Finance, Apr. 6.)

4. "World's Capacity for Cotton Goods," is the title of an extensive review in Journal of Commerce, April 7, of conditions prevailing in cotton and cotton goods recently made by J. W. McConnell, Chairman of British Fine Cotton Spinners' and Doublers' Association. The essential facts and conclusions developed include the threat to English export trade contained in the abnormally high costs of yarn production since the war and the question that has arisen as to the cessation of demand recently and consequently reduced consumption.

5. Manufacturers Record for April 7 publishes a letter written by Richard H. Edmonds, its editor, on March 11 to Sir Charles Macara, former president of the International Cotton Spinners' Association, and one of the foremost cotton manufacturers of England, in answer to the latter's suggestion that the British and American governments should unite to buy up the entire stock of cotton now on the market in order to protect the future. Mr. Edmonds asks how the plan would be carried out, and whether, if it were at all feasible, the stock of cotton thus carried over would not be used to break down the cotton market later on.

Cotton Tariff

The sub-committee of the Ways and Means Committee which has been working on the cotton schedule, will resume its interrupted work on Wednesday. The sub-committee on cotton is composed of Representatives Green, Treadway and Bowers. (Federal Trade Information Service, Apr. 6.)

Dairying

A report just issued by the head of the dairy department of the Frisco Railroad shows that the creameries in the Ozark district of Missouri produced last year 12,305,585 pounds of butter, with a

Dairying (Cont'd)

value of $7,400,000. This was an increase of 11 1/2 per cent over 1919. (Manufacturers Record, Apr. 7.)

Eight-Hour Day in Italian Agriculture

The International Labor Office of the League of Nations gives an account of an attempt to introduce the eight-hour day into Italian agriculture by collective agreements between employers and the workers' unions. The object is to fix an average day of eight hours, it being impracticable rigidly to limit all agricultural work at all seasons to eight hours a day. The evidence as to the effect of the limited working day is conflicting. (From a summary of the report in Monthly Labor Review for March.)

Imports to Norway

The importation of live animals into Norway has been prohibited from all countries. Hides and skins are allowed entrance in so far as they are salted or dried, but the permit is subject to inspection by the official Norwegian veterinarian.
(April 4 Bulletin, Department of Trade and Commerce, Canada.)

Farm Bureau Criticism

"The Farm Bureau's Oversight," is the title of the leading editorial in The Country Gentleman for April 9 which criticises the Farm Bureau Federation for the failure of its officials "to get their story across to the city folks." It says: "It is unfortunate, but true, that city consumers do not generally know that a sheep raiser recently received for his sheep only 34 cents a head above the cost of transportation and marketing, while they, the consumers, were paying more than a half dollar a pound for chops."

Farm Labor

Average wages of male farm labor in the United States from 1913 to 1920, by the month and by the day, with and without board; and average wages of male farm labor in 1920, by geographical division, are given in Monthly Labor Review for March.

French Agriculture

French agricultural budget reveals that in 1913 France had 14,780 bulls. Last year's census showed that the number had fallen to 12,700. From a total of more than 16,000,000 cattle in 1913 the herds have shrunk to 9,300,000. The number of horses in the country was reduced through loss by the war and inattention to breeding by nearly 1,000,000. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 7.)

Germany's Market

"Germany's Market," is the title of an article in Wirtschaft und Statistik for February, 1921. An interesting chart is given showing the relative value of imports and exports of Germany with twenty of the leading nations of the world.

Hog Profits

"Has the Hog a Future?" is the title of an article by John M. Evvard in The Country Gentleman for April 9. His answer, given after a detailed analysis of the situation, is in the affirmative.

North Dakota and Nonpartisan League

The Country Gentleman for April 9 states in editorial that the keenest analysis of the Nonpartisan League which has come to its notice is from the pen of Richard Spillane, of the Philadelphia Public Ledger. The article quoted entire, says in part:
(Cont'd on page 5.)

North Dakota and Nonpartisan League (Cont'd)

"No one can judge the North Dakota affair fairly who does not know the problems and difficulties of the farmer. The North Dakotans sought correction in an abortive manner. They were doomed to failure and failure has come to them. *** They have lost more through their effort to free themselves than they would have suffered had they endured the burdens. That does not alter the fundamental fact that they were exploited by plunderers."

Seed Exports from Holland

Report of the exports of seeds from Holland is given in Commerce Reports for April 5. It states that present indications are that the seed-growing industry of the Netherlands, which had assumed large proportions before the war, is resuming its extent and vitality, especially in North Holland and Groningen.

Spanish Irrigation Congress

A national irrigation congress will be held at Valencia, Spain, April 18 - 27. It is the third congress which will study technical questions relating to irrigation and drainage for the purpose of increasing agricultural and horticultural progress in the peninsula. (Bul. des Halles. Mar. 24.)

Sugar

The Spanish duty of 60 pesetas per 100 kilos on sugar has been restored from April 1. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 5.)

Water Routes for Farmers

"New Routes to Market," is the title of an article by E. V. Wilcox, in The Country Gentleman for April 9, which states that high transportation costs are causing the farmer to consider water for long hauls. The author says that wherever he went in the corn belt he heard the emphatic reaffirmation of the one central idea regarding cheap and adequate freight routes or trade channels leading from the corn belt to the world's markets. Everybody was thinking of the Mississippi and the Great Lakes water routes, and everybody, including railroad officials, was behind the proposal to put both these routes in practical operation.

World Trade Conference

Thirty nations will be represented at the conference of ambassadors and ministers on world trade to be held in New York May 16 to 18, inclusive, the Department of Commerce announced yesterday. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 8.)

Department of Agriculture

1. "It may be hoped that the Secretary who said his services were available to everyone concerned with crop marketing will be able to extend his advisory aid to the grain dealers. He can render no greater aid than by using the influence of his office to bring a better understanding between the grain dealers and the grain producers." (From Editorial in Wash. Herald, Apr. 8.)

2. "The more the Arkansas road situation is aired the worse it looks. Thomas H. McDonald, Chief of the Federal Bureau of Highways, has submitted a report containing an illuminating digest of the Road Improvement District laws of the state under whose workings the limitations of assessments and taxes for road improvement have been practically removed." (From editorial in Commerce and Finance, April 6.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 15. April 9, 1921.

Grain growing states were districted yesterday for the election of 21 temporary directors of the National Cooperative Grain Marketing Corporation, the organization of which was voted last night at Chicago by the farmers' conference.

Assignment of directors was made on the basis of grain marketed by the states. One director will be named for each $60,000,000 worth of grain.

Recommendation has been made to the incoming board of the national corporation by the Committee of Seventeen that the body recognize and try to coöperate with all existing farm organizations interested in marketing. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 9.)

The National Association of Owners of Railway Securities joined yesterday with five railroad labor unions in proposing that President Harding call a conference of representatives of both owners and employees to discuss the railroad problem, perticularly as it affects wages and working conditions now in dispute before the Railroad Labor Board. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 9.)

A federal highway commission to direct concentration of federal highway expenditures on roads of interstate importance was advocated yesterday by representatives of the automotive industry, who placed their views before the President at the White House. Later in the day the industrial representatives discussed highway policies with the Secretary of Agriculture and T. H. McDonald, Director of the Bureau of Public Roads. (Wash. Post, Apr. 9.)

The week of May 22 was designated by President Harding yesterday as "Forest Protection Week," during which governors of the various states are asked to arrange educational and instructive exercises to place before the people the need for preventing unnecessary waste by forest fires. (Wash. Post, Apr. 9.)

Republican members of the House Ways and Means Committee last night adopted the subcommittee report to accompany the reintroduction in Congress Monday of the emergency tariff bill vetoed in the last session by President Wilson. The report was written by Representative Young, of North Dakota, chairman of the committee's subcommittee on agriculture who announced the House would be asked to take the bill up for consideration on Wednesday. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 9.)

Agricultural Legislation

"Congress and the Farmers," is the title of an editorial in the Journal of Commerce for April 8 which says in part: "The benefit accruing to the farmer from future trading in certain agricultural staples is recognized by all competent observers. Any undue regulation of such trading is sure to react upon the producer of the articles entering into such trade. The so-called packer control bill and the measure designed to regulate cold storage operation will harm rather than help both the farmer and the consumer."
(Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 8.)

British Columbia Fruit Crop

New canning factories are being constructed in British Columbia to handle this year's fruit crop. Twenty-eight hundred acres have been put under berry cultivation alone. Official estimates place the 1921 berry crop at 500 cars, or 50 per cent larger than last year's new production record. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 8.)

Canadian Department of Agriculture

"The Financial Benefit to Canada of the Work of the Department of Agriculture," is the title of an article which appears in March-April issue of The Agricultural Gazette of Canada. This outlines the work of the Dominion department in research, investigation, illustration, assistance, prevention, propaganda, and administration. It states that the operations and policies of the department have been responsible for increased returns to the country of many millions of dollars, which in future should be increased to billions.

Cotton

1. The coming world cotton conference in England is the subject of an article in The American Cotton News for March. It states that the subjects to be discussed will include the establishment of economic reforms in the baling, handling, marketing and distribution of the American cotton crop among the spinners of the world.

2. Spain is apparently shut off as a market for American cotton for the time being, according to Department of Commerce, which states that Spain is over-stocked with cotton and cotton textiles. Under normal circumstances, Spain would at this season be able to consume about 200,000 more bales of American cotton, but there is now a surplus which will last about 6 months. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 8.)

Fertilizers

British Minister of Agriculture reports officially the following stocks of fertilizers in the United Kingdom on January 31, 1921: Basic slag, 39,000 tons; superphosphate, 150,000 tons; rock phosphate, 173,000 tons; nitrate of soda, 77,000 tons. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 7.)

Foreign Trade

1. Secretary Hoover expressed himself without reserve April 7 as favoring a reorganization of the foreign trade service of the Government in order to meet the steadily increasing acuteness of foreign competition. He will endeavor to urge upon Congress the consideration of the economic and commodity basis of an organization as important as our foreign trade service. This would not do away with the duties of the consular officials as trade informants, but it would set in operation a strong service of expert men in various lines of production in this country, so that no field of trade abroad would be without immediate and competent advice from specialists.
(Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 8.)

Foreign Trade (Cont'd)

2. "The amount of butter which we will export to the United States in the future depends upon the price which your country is willing to pay and upon the rate of exchange," was the statement of the minister of agriculture in Denmark to Roger J. Leavitt, who writes of the industry as he studied it in Denmark, in The Creamery Journal for April 1.

Prof. B. Boggild of the Royal Agricultural College at Copenhagen said: "It is the present rate of exchange which allows us to compete with your farmers on the New York market. With the kronen only worth half of what it was on the basis of the dollar, American buyers can afford to pay us the same price that the English government butter control allows."

3. One result of the prevailing high prices for all commodities in the Netherlands has been the importation from abroad of food products which in ordinary times and under ordinary circumstances are exported from the country. Butter from Denmark and beef from Argentina are the principal commodities which have been imported. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 6.)

4. The prohibition on the importation of rice into Cuba, decreed Sept. 7, 1920, is to remain in force until 80 per cent of the merchantable rice in Cuba at the time of the promulgation of the decree shall have been disposed of. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 6.)

5. A study of German competition in the foreign trade being carried on by the Department of Commerce already suggests the conclusion that the German exporters and manufacturers are courting bankruptcy by using faulty cost-accounting systems or by ignoring cost of production entirely. (Federal Trade Information Service, Apr. 8.)

6. Announcement was made by Chilean Minister of Finance April 6 that an association of German farmers was negotiating for the purchase of 50,000 tons of Chilean nitrate. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 8)

Labor

1. The Farm Bureau of Los Angeles County, California, made recommendations as to a reasonable wage scale for workers in citrus districts and for general farming districts, as follows: Citrus districts - unskilled labor, 35 cents an hour; teamsters, 40 cents an hour; tractor operators, 40 to 50 cents an hour; pruners, 50 cents an hour; tractor work, $2 to $2.25 an hour; team work, $7 to $7.50 per nine hour day. General farming districts - unskilled labor, $2 to $2.25 per day and board, or $40 to $50 per month and board; ranch foremen, $75 to $100 per month with house. (California Cultivator, Apr. 2.)

2. Farmers in western Canada will pay from 25 per cent to 50 per cent less for labor this year than last. Prevailing rates are from $40 to $60 a month with board. If help cannot be secured at these figures farmers will only seed such land as they can take care of themselves. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 8.)

3. Hundreds of Jamaicans who have been unable to obtain work on the sugar plantations in Cuba are returning home. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 8.)

Legislation 1. Secretary Mellon yesterday expressed the hope that the first act of the new Congress would be the enactment of the McCormick-Good Budget bill. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 9.)

2. As a result of the enactment by the Ohio State Senate on April 7 of the administrative code, prepared under the direction of Governor Davis, which will become effective July 1, eight important departments are created to take the place of the various boards and commissions. These include departments of finance, commerce, industrial relations, health, agriculture, public works and highways, public welfare and education. Directors of each department will receive a salary of $6500 a year. (New York Times, Apr. 8.)

Lumber Immediate effect of announced lower freight rates, according to West Coast Lumberman's Association, was to stimulate buying in territory where West Coast rates are to be most nearly restored to the old competitive relationships with Southern Pine. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 6.)

Marketing "Marketing by Federations," is the title of an article by Theodore Macklin, Wisconsin College of Agriculture, who reviews the subject of cooperating marketing as a whole, and gives a specific analysis of the operation of the Wisconsin Cheese Producers' Federation. (Hoard's Dairyman, Apr. 8.)

Rubber Announcement is made of the first issue of The Rubber Industry, the new publication of the Rubber Association of America, in Journal of Commerce, April 8.

Sales by Government Secretary Weeks yesterday indicated a determination to see that the Government receives a fair return for surplus supplies sold through the War Department. He believes many firms needing materials the Department continually is offering for sale submit ridiculously low bids, thinking they are entitled to buy from the Government at far below actual value. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 9.)

Sugar 1. The Federal Sugar Refining Company, in its weekly statement on sugar conditions, expresses the opinion that the Cuban Sugar Commission may break up because the sugar market is weakening and the small Cuban planters are becoming restless. The company yesterday announced a reduction of 1/2 cent a pound to 7.75 for refined. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 9.)

2. The quantity of sugar produced in France from Sept. 1, 1920 to Jan. 15, 1921, amounts to 285,375,383 kilos, against 148,653,158 kilos for the same period of the previous crop year. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 5.)

Exemption in Foreign Countries Exemption of American companies operating in foreign countries from taxes imposed by the United States under present tax schedules is advocated by Secretary of Commerce Hoover for the purpose of equalizing competing advantages of American companies with those of foreign concerns. This view was expressed in support of legislation to exempt American companies operating in China from the payment of taxes in addition to local taxes. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 8.)

Texas Acreage Cut — The President of Blair and Hughes Co., Dallas, Tex., estimates a reduction in acreage of about 37 per cent, based on reports received by their salesmen from 26 Texas counties. He quotes a reduction of 40 to 60 per cent in southwestern counties in Oklahoma. (Commerce and Finance, Apr. 6.)

Walnuts — Completely selling out in six months the second largest walnut crop ever produced, the California Walnut Growers' Association has established a selling record probably not equaled during the past year by any other organization handling a widely used food product. The supply of nuts has been used up, in spite of the fact that the Association had a heavy carry-over and faced almost ruinous foreign competition at the beginning of the season. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 7.)

"Wear Cotton" Campaign — Movements have been started by the Texas Housewives' Chamber of Commerce and the Chambers of Commerce of various cities in advocacy of wearing more cotton. The appeal will be made to the nation to wear cotton because of economic and other reasons, rather than solely to "help the South." (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 9.)

Wool

1. Argentine wool manufacturers are rapidly gaining ground in spite of foreign competition and much German capital invested in the industry. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 8.)

2. Negotiations between Argentina and Belgium concerning the importation of large quantities of South American wool have terminated with the former government authorizing the Argentine National Bank to allow two years' credit on such shipments. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 8.)

3. The British Australian Wool Realization Association April 7 offered 6,600 bales, but the reserve prices were much above the present market values, and all was withdrawn. Announcement was made canceling the April 8 sale of 10,000 bales. Subsequently 3,669 bales of privately owned wools were offered and met fair support. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 8.)

Select List of New Books Added to Library

Amani, German East Africa. Biologisch-landwirtschaftliches institut. Düngungsversuche in den deutschen kolonien. heft. 6. Beiträge zur kenntnis ostafrikanischer roterden und laterite. Von Dr. A. Eichinger. 1920.

Farmers' marketing committee of seventeen. Outlined explanation of the proposed grain marketing plan. 1921.

Montana. Dept. of agriculture and publicity. Resources of Montana. "The land of opportunity." Ed. of 1920.

U.S. Dept. of labor. Division of negro economics. The negro at work during the world war and during reconstruction. 1921.

Warburg, J.F. Cotton and cotton manufacture; a brief analysis for the layman. 2d ed. 1921.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 16. April 11, 1921.

The first session of the temporary board of directors of the United States Grain Growers, Inc., the national cooperative grain marketing corporation organized by farmers' representatives was in progress at Chicago April 9. C. H. Gustafson has been chosen chairman of the temporary board and Frank M. Myers, temporary secretary. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 10.)

The railroads of the United States suffered a deficit in February of $7,205,000, while 106 out of 200, reporting to the Interstate Commerce Commission failed to earn their expenses and taxes, according to tabulation of reports just filed by the carriers with the commission. (N.Y. Times, Apr.11.)

The Banco National de Cuba suspended payment April 9. Failure to obtain a loan in the United States is believed to be the cause of the decision of the directors to close the bank. The institution has been in difficulties since the drop in sugar prices caused the recent financial crisis in Cuba. Efforts are expected to commence immediately to reorganize the bank on a sound financial basis. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 11.)

Chamber of Commerce of the United States yesterday announced the membership of a committee to study the forest situation in this country. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 11.)

Sales tax bill to be introduced in the Senate today by Senator Smoot imposes a tax of 1 per cent on all turnovers with an annual exemption of $6,000, the effect of this being to exempt smaller farmers and tradesmen. (Wash. Post, Apr. 11.)

California Fruit

Dr. J. C. Whitten, Professor of pomology, University of California, states that California is the leading state in America and every other country in the world in all lines of fruit except grapefruit, apples and berries. (Pacific Rural Press, Apr. 2.)

Camphor

Owing to the rapid reduction in the number of camphor trees in Japan and Formosa in recent years, with the increased demand for camphor, it is urged by all the experts that the planting and growth of camphor trees should be greatly encouraged. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr.9)

Chocolate Industry in Switzerland

A report from the American Consul at Berne on the present condition of the Swiss chocolate industry contained in Commerce Reports for April 8, says in part: "The manufacture of chocolate, one of the leading industries in the Berne consular district, is at present facing the most serious conditions that have confronted the industry since its establishment. The foreign market for Swiss chocolate is very unfavorable, and, in the opinion of leading manufacturers, there is little indication for substantial improvement in the near future."

Cotton

1. The American Cotton Association is working for the widespread organization of sectional association throughout the South, by means of which growers can cooperate to advantage in the marketing of their cotton. It is understood that Aaron Shapiro, counsel for 14 farmers' cooperative associations on the Pacific Coast, has been asked to draw up contracts. (Am. Wool and Cotton Reporter, Apr. 7.)

2. Former Postmaster General Burleson will leave immediately on a tour of continental Europe in an endeavor to find a suitable market for Texas cotton and at the same time dispose of approximately 2,000,000 bales remaining unsold from last year's crop, according to H. A. Wroe of a bank in Austin, Texas, which is backing the enterprise. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 11.)

Crops

Complete official returns of the British Ministry of Agriculture show that the acreage under important crops in the United Kingdom in 1920 still exceeds the corresponding prewar acreage. Cultivation of wheat, barley, oats and potatoes extended over approximately 10,000,000 acres in 1920, or about 1,000,000 acres more than in 1913. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 9.)

Dairy Industry in the Netherlands

A report from the American Consul General at Rotterdam on the "Control of Dairy Industry in the Netherlands," published in Commerce Reports for April 8, says in part: "To prevent a shortage of milk and milk-product supplies in the Netherlands due to excessive sales to Germany and increasing demand for domestic consumption, the Dutch Government recently inaugurated a strict system of control over the entire dairy business. The plan provides for a semiofficial dairy bureau, under the Minister of Agriculture, which controls in a general way the production of butter and cheese, etc., and regulates the distribution of sweet milk throughout the Netherlands. The office is supported by a tax on milk production. The milk producers of the country are divided into two classes - the one that cooperated with, and the other class that does not cooperate with, the Government bureau. Producers in the latter class can sell their milk where they please, but they are not allowed under the law to manufacture cheese for sale. As all cheese offered on the market must be marked, this prohibition is quite effective. Dairymen that come into the Government's organization are allowed to manufacture cheese from time to time as the bureau may indicate, according to the supply of milk available."

Flax-fiber Twine

A report from the American Consul at Kingston, Ontario, on Canadian flax-fiber twine, contained in Commerce Reports for April 8, says in part:" The Canadian Government has for some time been studying the possibilities of recovering and utilizing straw from flax grown for seed. In its more recent work it has sought to ascertain the valu

(Cont'd on page 3)

Flax-fiber Twine (Cont'd)

of the conclusions reached in previous investigations to discover some means of separating the flax straw without materially injuring the fiber and to obtain figures on the cost of converting the fiber into cordage, felt, and other products. The investigation included a comparison between matured straw and straw frozen before maturity. The conclusions drawn in regard to these qualities were that grain straw could not be decorticated, and that fully matured straw was slightly better than almost mature frozen straw for fiber production."

Land Reclamation in N.C.

"The drainage and reclamation of swamp and overflowed lands in North Carolina is one of the functions of the North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey, and although this department of the state has had but a small amount of money available for this work, it has been able to accomplish some wonderful results, due to the most cordial cooperation of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and various interests in North Carolina," says the Manufacturers Record for April 7. Only one amendment to the North Carolina drainage law was passed by the General Assembly of 1921, and that relates to the status of a drainage district and definitely places drainage districts as political subdivisions of the state.

Live Stock

1. The Chicago Livestock Exchange on Friday filed another complaint with the Interstate Commerce Commission against the charge of 25 cents per carload for loading and unloading livestock at the Union Stockyards from May 17, 1917 to April 1, 1920. The complaint was filed because of shipments made since the date of filing the original complaint. (Federal Trade Information Service, Apr. 9.)

2. "Brands and Branding in the West," is the title of an extensive article by W. F. Wilcox, in The Breeder's Gazette for April 7, which gives the history and practice of burning identifying characters upon cattle and horses in the ranch and range country, and a digest of state laws bearing upon the subject.

3. Under the title, "A Veteran Family of Breeders in Friesland," D. Offringa, gives an account of the farms and farm management of the Kuperus family, the noted breeders and exporters of Fresian stock, at Marssum, Friesland, Holland, in Iowa Agriculturist for April.

Marketing

1. A comprehensive report of the national cooperative grain marketing corporation, organized at the farmers' conference at Chicago April 8, appears in the New York Commercial for April 9.

2. California's rice pools proved efficient weapons in the growers vs. millers war, according to the report of the special committee of the California Rice Growers' Association appointed last January to handle the crop marketing situation. In its report the committee stated that the disastrous reduction of prices of rice in California at the time of its appointment was due to the appropriation, conversion and sale of the growers' milled rice by the millers. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 9.)

3. The canning crops growers of western New York have taken hold of matters with a will this season and they are battling for a fair and (Cont'd on page 4.)

Marketing (Cont'd)

3. square deal from owners of canning factories and wholesale dealers. Producers have figured pretty closely on the cost of growing their crops and in a series of meetings in central and western New York have in a business-like way presented the figures to the can-house buyers. (From editorial in American Agriculturist, Apr. 9.)

4. The sugar beet committee of the Utah State Farm Bureau saved $2,600,000 for the growers in negotiating a $15,000,000 contract for the 1921 crop. (Pacific Rural Press, Apr. 2.)

North Dakota

Financially, North Dakota is slowly righting itself but it is not at all likely that conditions will be anywhere near normal until another crop has been raised. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 9.)

Organized Farmers

The Washington Herald calls attention this morning, in an editorial entitled, "Organized Farmers," to an open letter addressed to the representatives of between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 farmers who will meet in Washington this week, by Industry, a publication whose name tells its purpose. It lays down certain principles for their guidance - progress and prosperity are not for one class at the expense of others. *** The agents of the Department of Agriculture should be replaced by men paid by these farmer organizations. Farmers should not reduce production to affect prices. They should not organize to increase the price of their products, etc.

"This may be all good advice, but why offered to farmers by representatives of other industry?" says the editorial, which gives reasons for the falsity of the arguments presented by Industry.

Potash

German potash producers have concluded an agreement with part of American manufacturing consumers to deliver to American independents as supplementary stock 45 per cent of last shipment without payment. This shipment amounted to about 29,000 tons of potash. The American consumers are obliged by the agreement to purchase 80 per cent of their requirements of potash from the German syndicate for a period of three years. (Radio from Frankfort-on-Main to Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 9.)

Another item in April 9 Journal of Commerce said in part: "Far from shedding any further light on the situation, the message from Frankfort-on-Main threw the entire situation into confusion."

Prices

In response to the charge frequently made in good faith by some men of responsibility and by newspapers that in spite of the fact that the wholesale price of meat has come down, there is no corresponding decrease in retail prices, The Butchers' Advocate for April 6 says: "While it is true that the wholesale price of meat is lower, the expense of conducting a market is practically as high and in some instances higher, than during the war period."

Raisin Crop

It is predicted that the raisin crop of 1921 will total 225,000 tons, according to Pacific Rural Press for April 2.

Soil of Connecticut and Yale Athletics

Yale has lost its athletic supremacy, according to Eugene A. Crilley, the expert in chemistry of Litchfield County, because the soil of Connecticut has become exhausted and the Yale athletes, as well as other persons who feed upon its products, have become a race of less

(Cont'd on page 5)

Soil of Connecticut and Yale Athletics (Cont'd)

vitality. He urges the state to supply farmers with lime and legumes. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 11.)

Tariff

That the high price of the American dollar, in the event of placing high duties on imports to the United States, will act as an automatic protective tariff to keep United States goods out of Argentina, and will thus render a reprisal tariff unnecessary, is the concensus of opinion in South American newspapers, according to a Buenos Aires American Chamber of Commerce circular to its members. (N.Y. Daily News Record, Apr. 9.)

Tobacco

Wide interest has been aroused in the tobacco trade by the decision of Chief Justice Clark of the North Carolina Supreme Court early this week that no tobacco board of trade can refuse the privilege of the warehouse floor to a non-member buyer. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 9.)

Warehousing

Officials of the National Wool Warehousing and Storage Company, whose warehouses at Chicago are owned by 800 wool growing stockholders say that the licensing feature has greatly increased their business. (Ohio Farmer, Apr. 9.)

Wood for Airplanes

Special inquiry has been made in Australia for wood suitable for airplane construction, writes Consul General Sammons, from Melbourne. It is desired to get in communication with merchants in the United States who are in a position to supply these woods, namely, silver spruce, Sitka spruce, etc. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 8.)

Conventions

1. Eighth annual convention of the National Foreign Trade Council will be held at Cleveland May 4 to 7.

2. The program of the second World Cotton Conference, to be held in Liverpool and Manchester, June 13 to 22, inclusive, is given in American Wool and Cotton Reporter for April 7.

Department of Agriculture

1. "Despite the difficulties of the position Dr. Alsberg succeeded in keeping himself very closely in harmony with the progressive elements of food manufacturers and the trade, and it is of great importance that his successor be sufficient of a diplomat to not only maintain high food standards but also to get along harmoniously with the practical side of food production." (From article under title, "Who will be New Chemistry Chief?" in Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 9.)

2. "The U. S. Bureau of Markets is meeting with success in its movement to promote the licensed warehouse system under the Federal warehouse act. There are now 305 warehouses bonded under the act, and the number is rapidly increasing." (Ohio Farmer, Apr. 9.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 17. April 12, 1921.

Lower transportation charges, economy in taxation, equal treatment under any tariff law, and short-time credits, are among the subjects which representatives of farmers in thirty states began discussing at Washington yesterday, preliminary to arranging a program of legislation to be asked of Congress. In addition to receiving reports from delegates, the committee was addressed yesterday by A.F. Lever, member of the Federal Farm Loan Board, and held a round-table discussion with Governor Harding of the Federal Reserve Board. (Press of April 12.)

The need of appointing "farm-minded" men on various governmental bodies, such as the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Federal Reserve Board, was brought out as one of the principal factors in the reduction of prices to the consumer at the meeting of the executive council of the American Farm Bureau Federation at Washington yesterday. (Press of April 12.)

Dr. Alonzo E. Taylor, chief of the division of research of the American relief administration, who is at Berlin after having completed a tour of the areas receiving American relief, declared yesterday that in his opinion no more cows should be sent to Germany. Germany has about 8,000,000 cows and feed for about 6,000,000. He stated that because of the scarcity of fodder the German cows are below the normal milk yield. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 12.)

Argentine Grain

"Where Argentine Grain Goes," is the title of a brief article in the Price Current Grain Reporter for April 6, taking exception to a statement attributed to Mr. Hoover that this country is the "dumping ground" for the products of South America. It states that excepting flax and some corn, Argentine grain does not come to the United States and concludes as follows, "It may be good business for farmers to slam the insignificant trade of these peoples with us in grain but is it good for anyone else among us?"

Crops

1. Under the title, "Less Corn, Less Labor, More Money," editorial in Wallace's Farmer for April 8 says in part: "Probably the most serious mistake of the farmers in 1921 will prove to be the planting too large an acreage to corn, oats, wheat and cotton. From an economic standpoint, it is almost as much of a sin to produce a great surplus of standard agricultural products as it is to bring about a (Cont'd on page 2)

Crops (Cont'd) great shortage. *** A cut of 20 per cent in corn acreage, according to the laws of probability should give us our normal carry-over into 1922, and should increase the return per hour for labor put on corn ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ to three times as much as it would be if we planted normal acreage this spring."

2. The production of root crops for 1920 in Denmark was somewhat below average; potatoes, kohlrabi and turnips were nearly up to the past five year average but other root crops especially carrots and sugar beets were considerably below. The production of potatoes for 1920 was 11,944 metric tons and that of sugar beets 8,474 tons. (Statistiske Efterretninger, March 14.)

Fertilizers A falling off by more than two-thirds of fertilizer sales in Alabama this season is indicated in figures just compiled by the State Department of Agriculture. These figures show that during the 1919-20 season fertilizer sales in Alabama totaled 329,660 tons, which amount has dropped to 130,415 tons. (Journal of Commerce, Apr. 11.)

Finance 1. In an editorial on investments, The Wall Street Journal for April 11 says in part: "The land bank system is to stand or fall on its merits. It was floated at the top of the wave of inflation in land values. It has a deceptive government backing which may convince the farmer accustomed to that debilitating influence without necessarily convincing the investor. The system is yet untried in the respect that it has not been tested under conditions of deflation."

2. Among farmers, cattlemen and other agricultural interests in need of funds at this season, the growing tightness of money in the Southwest is forcing extreme caution in the use of credit. There is hope that the betterment in the East will prove helpful to the Southwest, but few bankers are counting on any important relief from that source. Probably no class is being checked as much in the use of credit as cattlemen. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 12.)

Foreign Trade 1. "How We Finance Exports Despite Foreign Exchange," is the topic of an article in System for March, in which Samuel C. Dobbs, Director, Mississippi Delta Transport and Manufacturers Association, tells how they manufacture their products. He describes how they are transferring crops from a glutted market to one which hungrily takes all it can get and which needs similar stimulation in other lines if foreign exchange walls are to be beaten down.

2. An editorial in Wallace's Farmer for April 8, in referring to the bill introduced to Congress by Senator Cummins, authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to employ agricultural experts to serve as attaches at this country's principal foreign consular offices, says that it would be greatly to the advantage of the farmers of the United States if the United States had thoroughly trained agricultural experts attached to consular offices in all food importing countries.

3. Production of Russian flax is now less than 9 per cent of the usual crop. The entire production in four seasons of Bolshevism does not equal one normal year's output. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 11.)

Legislation

1. Representatives of the leading agricultural organizations, including the Federation of Farm Bureaus, the State Grange and the Dairymen's League, have received the approval of the Governor of New York for a plan to supply a telegraphic market reporting service to the farmers of the State, and a bill has been introduced in the Assembly and is now pending. The plan would combine the marketing reporting services of the United States Bureau of Markets and the New York Department of Farms and Markets. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 10.)

2. Three of the main bills relating to agriculture have passed both houses of the Iowa Assembly. These bills provide for non-profit, non-stock associations, collective bargaining and warehousing. (Wallace's Farmer, Apr. 8.)

Marketing

1. "Cooperation on the Hoof," is the title of an article by Stuart O. Blythe, in The Country Gentleman for April 16, in which he reviews the cooperative commission houses which are to be found today on the country's principal terminal markets.

2. New Jersey farmers will be extensive users of printer's ink and newspaper advertising space in their selling campaigns this year, according to the chief of the state bureau of markets. In some sections the farmers have decided on cooperative advertising to boost the sale of fresh products and to combat profiteering by dealers. Other big growers will carry individual display advertisements. (Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 12.)

Prices

1. In an article on the course of United States wholesale prices for 100 years, in the Annalist for April 11, Ralph C. Hurlin, statistician for the Russell Sage Foundation, calls attention to the similarity of two complete price cycles after the War of 1812 and the Civil War, on whose preliminary paths the nation seems again to be embarking. He states that better control of the monetary situation may shorten the swing.

2. The level of prices paid producers of the United States for the principal crops decreased about 2.6 per cent during February. In the past ten years the price level increased about 2 per cent during February. On March 1 the index figure of prices was about 53.1 per cent lower than a year ago, 42.6 per cent lower than two years ago, and 20.7 per cent lower than the average of the past ten years on March 1. (Price Current-Grain Reporter, Apr. 6.)

3. "The Price of Farm Tools," is the title of a comprehensive article by Philip S. Rose, in The Country Gentleman for April 16, which states that the trend of prices is downward, despite the high cost of raw materials. The author enters into every phase of the situation, as reported at recent conventions, and presents authoritative statistics giving in detail the reasons for the decline.

Tariff

Complications arising in connection with the bill providing for American valuation of imports have caused the abandonment of the program to make the measure apply to the present tariff law and to the emergency agricultural bill. (N.Y. Commercial, Apr. 11.)

Reforestation

One of the acts of the last Indiana General Assembly provided a special law tax rate on any tract of land which the owner may wish to set aside for reforestation, under regulations of the state department of forestry. The law will make financially possible the reforestation of land that has become unproductive, or the tracts of so-called "waste land" which many productive farms include. (Indiana Farmer's Guide, Apr. 9.)

Trade

A shipment of five tons of cascara bark from the coast valleys of British Columbia has revealed the fact that the only known supply of this valuable medicinal bark, in large quantities, is in British Columbia, the forests in Washington and Oregon having been completely stripped owing to the depredations of Japanese loggers, who ship to American and British drug firms. Steps are being taken by Canada to protect this herb in order that it may be properly cultivated and in time become an established industry in British Columbia. (N. Y. Commercial, Apr. 9.)

Transportation

1. A new development in Canadian exports to England has just been inaugurated by the arrival in London of the motor ship Buenos Aires, bearing a cargo of wheat sent from British Columbia via the Panama Canal. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 12.)

2. "Rerouting via the St. Lawrence", is the title of an article by Hugh J. Hughes, in The Country Gentleman for April 16, in which he states that the future of the Middle West depends on cheaper outlets to market, and says: "The Middle West either must find a Notch Road through which it can put its products destined for overseas points without delay, and at a lower cost if possible, or it must be content to stagnate. But there is no need for stagnation. *** If the St. Lawrence were made navigable, a 10,000 ton freighter could take on cargo at Chicago or Duluth or any other of the Great Lakes ports, drop down from the Erie to the Ontario level, coal for the sea voyage at Kingston, Ogdensburg or Montreal and hoist its cargoes into the waiting elevators at Liverpool or Havre in the time that is often taken to get the loaded cars down to the coast. In addition it could be done at a cost netting the grower at least five cents a bushel profit over the present rates."

Warehousing

The bill providing for a statewide system of grain elevators has passed the Iowa House of Representatives and did so by a practically unanimous vote. The bill for this act was backed by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation and was pushed through the lower house practically without any opposition whatever. The Capitol of Des Moines has supported this bill as "economically sound" and "not as radical" as other legislation of a similar character in other states. Under the proposed law the farmer would take his grain, if he desired so, to any of the state supervised warehouses, have it graded and obtain therefor a warehouse receipt on which he might obtain financial accomodation to suit. (The Price Current-Grain Reporter, Apr. 6.)

Wheat Control in India

The Government of India has decided to permit the exportation of about 400,000 tons of wheat only, although there is available a surplus of 2,000,000 tons. This action was taken to protect the consumers of India from the extremely high prices paid elsewhere in

Wheat Control in India

the world. The Government has no doubt that unrestricted export would have doubled the price. (Price Current Grain Reporter, Apr. 6.)

Wool

In the West the growers are taking every precaution to safeguard their interests on the new clip. To this end in some of the strongest centers wool pools are being attempted again this year but in many other places where the pools flourished last year the wools grown will be sold outright or else consigned to commission houses. (Commercial Bulletin, Apr. 9.)

Department of Agriculture

1. Wall Street Journal for April 11, in editorial on False Economy, cites the Department of Agriculture as a glaring example of false congressional economy, saying, in part: "It is a just complaint against Congress that it seldom distinguishes between economy and cheeseparing; it saves at the spigot and wastes at the bunghole. The Department of Agriculture is a case in point. That department is overloaded with unnecessary jobs while its invaluable scientific work is starved. *** Our Department of Agriculture now has over two hundred invaluable manuscripts waiting to be published. *** Observe now this contrast with Germany. That country, at least up to the termination of the war, disseminated all the scientific information it could gather, with small regard to the feelings of foreign authors. ***

Our Department of Agriculture has to its record and credit some of those victories of peace which are no less renowned than war. An underpaid servant of the Department discovered the source of the Texas cattle fever tick, which every year costs this country more than a hundred million dollars."

2. An editorial in the Price Current-Grain Reporter for April 6 states that county agents are active in encouraging and even promoting farm organizations that engage in cooperative buying and selling in defiance of the instructions which are given them by the Government. The testimony of Dr. True before a congressional committee is referred to and the question is asked "Why does not the Department as distributor of the federal funds to the states exercise proper discipline over the men whom it sends out and who in departing from their function as teachers of agricultural technique do so in plain violation of the Smith-Lever Act?"

Select List of New Books Added to Library

Elgin, Ill. Board of trade. Weekly prices of butter on the Elgin Board of trade ... Butter and egg prices ... 1910-1920.

Federazione italiana dei consorzi agrari. L'Italia agricola e il suo avvenire. fasc. 2. 1920.

International cotton buyer and cotton seller and reference book. v. 7, 1920.

U. S. Bureau of education. Bulletin. 1920, no. 34. Statistics of Universities, colleges and professional schools. 1917-18. Washington. 1921.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information (Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 18. April 13, 1921.

According to plans submitted by the packers as agreed to yesterday by the Department of Justice and approved by Justice Stafford of the District of Columbia Supreme Court, Swift and Co. and Armour and Co., must deliver their stock in stockyards and stockyard terminal railroads to the Illinois Trust and Savings bank, Chicago, within 30 days for administration by two trustees until sold, which must be within a year.
(Press of Apr. 13.)

"The belief that grain markets can be manipulated downward, that short selling can successfully and permanently reduce prices, is erroneous, and is based on lack of knowledge of the markets and of economic laws." Part of the report submitted by the board of directors of the Chicago Board of Trade to President J. P. Griffin on an investigation he had requested concerning alleged trade abuses on the board. (Associated Press, Apr. 13.)

Suggestion of a 5 per cent tax on corporations to replace the excess profits tax was made to the American Farm Bureau Federation conference at Washington April 12, by T. S. Adams, tax expert of the Treasury Department. He also expressed opposition to a sales tax. (Press of Apr. 13.)

J. R. Howard, President of American Farm Bureau Federation, stated at federation conference at Washington yesterday that he had received advices from four states that schools in some sections were being forced to close on account of the inability of farmers to pay taxes. (Press of Apr. 13.)

The four brotherhoods of railway employees have joined forces with the American Federation of Labor "to defeat legislation inimical to the rights of wage workers," said a statement given out yesterday by the American Federation of Labor after a conference of labor leaders in which bills pending before Congress were discussed. (Press of Apr. 13.)

Transfer of the Bureau of Customs Statistics from the Treasury Department to the Department of Commerce is recommended in the report of a special committee recently appointed by Secretary Hoover to check up on the nation's foreign trade figures. (Press of Apr. 13.)

Cooperation

The Anonymous Cooperative Society amongst Citrus Industrials of Sicily and Calabria is the Englished name of a society recently organized, with its head office in Messina. It announces as its principal aims the protection of the industry and commerce of the citrus essential oils, fixing just prices and avoiding excessive discrepancies. It advances funds only to its members who are producers of lemon oil, against consignments and solid guarantees. It undertakes loan operations upon deposits of essential oil of lemons and other oils produced by its members. Its capital is unlimited. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 1)

Cooperative Marketing

1. "Necessary to Pool Commodities," is the title ofthe third of a series of articles on cooperative marketing by Bruce Lampson, of the Washington-Idaho Wheat Growers' Association, in The Michigan Farmer for April 9. The author shows the necessity of pooling the commodity and of every member receiving the average price and the method of financing the crop; getting the advance; distributing the money, and financing the warehouse.

2. Under the title "Fooling the Farmer" the Price-Current Grain Reporter for April 6 reprints an article by Henry Michels which first appeared in the American Seedsman for March 15 under the title "Cooperation and the Farmer," in which the author states that an examination of records for 25 years past showed that the average advance in wheat prices from September to May has not been sufficient to more than cover carrying charges. It is also stated that the Cheese Producers Federation of Plymouth, Wisconsin, after six successful years of operation paid their patrons only 2/100 of one per cent over what their packer competitors paid without reducing the cost of the product to the consumers at all. In conclusion he gives his reasons for doubting whether distribution of farm products through farmers organizations will result in any benefit either to producer or consumer.

Cotton

That a cotton warehouse system is necessary to the industry is the opinion of the Wall Street Journal, which states in an article in April 12 issue that the world supply of clothing and maintenance of the cotton industry depends upon an adequate return to the producers. So far as the American producer is concerned, the first step toward this end is cheap and adequate credit. But it never has and never can be used to fully finance the movement from plantation to mill in an orderly manner under the present method of handling. To make cotton safe and attractive to bankers it must be handled through a comprehensive system of bonded warehousing, uniform throughout the entire country.

Foreign Trade

1. Meat consumption in Germany is not as great as in prewar times. The low German exchange rate makes meat a luxury, so that the masses have to curtail their daily rations. Home production has increased, and large amounts of fresh beef and live cattle are being imported from Denmark, while fresh dressed hogs are being imported from Jugoslavia in large quantities. It is not surprising that the imports of United States hog products, with the exception of lard, have decreased so rapidly in the last six or eight months.
(Hamburg correspondence of National Provisioner, Apr. 9.)

Foreign Trade 2. "The Rawhide Industry of South America," is the title of an article in The Pan-American Magazine for April, which states that observers in the River Plate cattle country report a small though promising advance in the quotations on wet-salted hides. This is attributed, however, to purely local demands. So far as the United States is concerned, the stagnation in the retail shoe trade, due to high prices, may be regarded as one of the causes of the halting of the South American trade in hides.

Forestry As examples of the widespread interest manifested by the states in protection and perpetuation of forest resources, American Forestry for April cites the following: Northeast Maine is considering the regulation of cutting on private lands through the establishment of auxiliary state forests; the New Hampshire legislature has before it bills providing for the leaving of seed trees on pine lands, for compulsory forest fire patrol, and for the disposal of slashings, Massachusetts is planning to continue its purchases of state forests; Connecticut is proposing to modify the present system of forest taxation and to enlarge the State Park Commission into State Park and Forest Commission; Indiana is endeavoring to improve its present fire protective system and to encourage timber production through tax exemptions; Texas is considering the adoption of a comprehensive forest policy with particular emphasis on fire protection; California has established a State nursery, and is considering the establishment of state forests.

Fur Trade At the spring auction of the New York Fur Auction Sale Corporation which opened at New York, April 11, quotations, generally speaking, were about 25 per cent higher than the prices at the January sale but somewhat lower than prices which have obtained in the open market recently. About 90 per cent of the offerings were sold. The general attitude of the bidders was conservative. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr.12)

Grain Perhaps the most notable feature of the situation in the northern European markets has been the increased offerings and purchases from the smaller producing countries, as distinct from the great producers, i.e., the United States, Argentina, and Canada, Australia, British India, and Manchuria have been steadily sending in considerable quantities of grain during the quarter and the indications are that Rumania will be a considerable factor in these markets before the year is ended. (Report of Consul General at Rotterdam to Commerce Reports, April 9.)

Legislation 1. An outline of the Minnesota farmers' legislative program is given in the St. Paul Farmer for April 9. The author, Berry H. Akers, states that agricultural legislation never received such support or consideration by a legislature in Minnesota as has been given to agricultural measures in the present session. The so-called "farmers' bills," indorsed by the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation have become laws. The big "farmer program", the anti-future trading, public markets, rural credits, grain grading and cooperative bills were put through quickly to meet the demand that came from the farms for such legislation. The article tells of the passage and probable effect of these bills which have become laws, also of further farmer legislation pending.

Legislation

2. Modification of the federal grain grades will be asked of Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, if a resolution introduced into the Minnesota legislature by Senator Ole Sageng is adopted, says Western Grain Journal for April 7. The resolution would have a committee ask that the old Minnesota grades be reestablished and would ask that North Dakota and South Dakota join in the request.

3. A bill is now before the Minnesota legislature that provides for the establishment of a College of Veterinary Medicine in connection with the University of Minnesota. (St. Paul Farmer, Apr. 9.)

4. In a bill introduced recently into the legislature of Wisconsin, provision is made for official testing of tractors using liquid fuel. The measure is similar to that enacted in Nebraska two years ago, and under which 65 tractors were officially tested during 1920. (Farm Implement News, Apr. 7.)

5. Indorsement of the patrol system for maintaining country roads and of the emergency tariff on farm products marked the conference in Indianapolis April 4 of the presidents and secretaries of the Middle West farm bureau federation. Prairie Farmer, April 9.

Marketing

South Dakota potato growers will market their potatoes in the future through their own selling organization, the South Dakota Potato Growers' Exchange, organized at Watertown, March 25. Representatives from seven of the leading potato-producing counties took part in the organization meeting on March 25. The exchange has been modeled after the Minnesota Potato Exchange, and it is probable that it will do its selling in cooperation with the Minnesota Exchange. The plan of organization has only been tentatively approved, but will be made permanent at ratification meeting at Watertown, May 4. (St. Paul Farmer, Apr. 9.)

Prices

1. Campbell-Ewald Co. has pursued the question of prices of farm implements since the Federal Trade Commission reached its conclusion that the advance on the whole farm equipment line from 1914 to 1918 averaged 73 per cent. Starting with this percentage, records of manufacturers were consulted and the advances made after 1918 were duly considered. After a careful study of the figures Campbell-Ewald Co's experts reached the conclusion that the total average implement advance up to the beginning of the present year was 78 per cent. (From editorial under title, "The Peak of Implement Prices," Farm Implement News, Apr. 7.)

2. It was not the recent falling off in domestic meat consumption so much as it was the decline in export demand that affected meat prices in recent months, according to the National Provisioner for April 9. The meat industry suffered from lack of world-wide demand for its meats as well as for its by-products.

Science

The Library has received today Nos. 1 and 2 of Science News Bulletin, issued by Science Service, Edwin E. Slosson, Editor. This is issued under the auspices of the National Research Council, sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences.

Tariff

1. The Financier, discussing the proposed emergency tariff, observes "The prospective tariff law which Congress is to tackle at the coming session, and which has been designated as a move to help farmers and producers, might better be termed an act for the relief of retailers, who need no relief, and for the relief of the speculative woes of the distressed middlemen, who deserve no sympathy. Politically, it may be policy to promise help to the farmer, but there will be no sustenance in the promise. Shutting off the opportunity to trade when the whole country is crying out for more trade, is a poor way to cure that particular disease.

The Magazine of Wall Street, considering the same question says: "The proposed tariff measures do not appear likely to remedy matters either with regard to Europe or with regard to us. They certainly will have little effect on the present situation." (Standard Daily Trade Service, Apr. 11.)

2. In an analysis of business conditions, in Farm Implement News for April 7, by W. H. Stackhouse, president, National Implement and Vehicle Association, he says: "There is one phase to this foreign exchange situation - that is, the effect it is going to have on our tariff legislation. We have extreme tariff advocates in this country; we have put them in Congress. Now, shouldn't it be patent to the most extreme high protectionists that the enactment of a measure of that kind would be absolutely derogatory to the solution of this foreign exchange problem, because if we erect high tariff barriers in this country, how are we going to buy as much as we sell, to say nothing of buying more and bringing the foreign exchange situation back to normal?"

Wheat

"Is Wheat Still a Profitable Crop to Raise?" is the title of an article by Andrew Boss, Minnesota College of Agriculture, in the St. Paul Farmer for April 9. He states that prices have not declined, over a long period of years, but value of land has increased, while profits are not so large as from some other crops. He believes that wheat is still one of the best cash crops adapted to large acreage.

Department of Agriculture

"The policy of retrenchment in grain acreage evident among farmers is called by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace an 'intelligent adjustment to public needs.'

"He might have added that it is nothing to make a fuss about, as it is nothing new. The fact that the farmers are now generally organized simply brings more publicity and the prominence of cohesion to what has always been a custom. *** For at least thirty years past an overyield of any farm product with a price below a fair profit has been sufficient to make the farmers reduce the area devoted to that product the following year." (From editorial in Wash. Herald, Apr. 13.)

Select List of New Books Added to Library

California. Dept. of agriculture. Division of animal industry. California dairy products, 1919-20. 1921. (Circular 3)

East Indies (Dutch) Kina proefstation. Mededeelingen van het gouvernements kina-proefstation no. 8. Het kiemvermoegen van kinazaad, door M. Kerbosch. 1920.

Kansas. State board of irrigation. Report, 1919/20.

Quebec (Province) Dept. of agriculture. Report, 1919/20.

Stitt, E.R. Practical bacteriology, blood work and animal parasitology. 6th ed. 1920.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 19. April 14, 1921.

Middlemen now are levying a toll of 21 per cent on the value of all foods and most necessities used throughout the entire United States, according to price data now in possession of Secretary of Labor Davis.

Reconsignments, high freight rates, and the open price system of price fixing are responsible for the discrepancy between the prices paid by the consumer and those received by the producer, according to a study of the problem made for the President by the Federal Trade Commission. (Press of Apr. 14.)

"The President is everlastingly right in his reported decision that no more Federal aid in road building shall be extended to any states which have not provided a road maintenance system. A road built is but a road started. *** Road building without systematic maintenance which never stops is a delusion and a snare. It is a raw waste of money. *** It is manifestly unwise for the government to merely encourage road building by its contributions, and a state that does not provide amply for maintenance certainly should not have federal aid in building." (From editorial in Wash. Herald, Apr. 14.)

"Farmers should build up an organization capable of presenting facts to Congress on matters affecting agriculture, Secretary Wallace said yesterday, speaking at the conference of the American Farm Bureau Federation. He deplored the complaint sometimes heard that appropriations for agriculture are in the nature of subsidizing a class, since they are for the benefit of the farmers. Such appropriations are actually more for the benefit of the consumers in the 'long look ahead' than for the farmers, he said." (Wash. Post, Apr. 14.)

Secretary of War Weeks April 13 asked for the authority of Congress to dispose to any foreign nation with which the United States is at peace, upon such terms as he may deem expedient, War Department foodstuffs here-after found to be surplus and for which there is no adequate market. The immediate purpose is to authorize the War Department to sell 81,000,000 pounds of surplus canned meat now in army storehouses. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 14.)

A cottonseed oil pit, a sugar pit, a wool pit and a coffee pit may be added to the trading facilities on the Chicago Board of Trade in the near future. (Press of April 14.)

Banks

While country banking conditions in North Dakota seem better, a little flare-up occurred in the Far West, in the corner where southeastern Washington touches Idaho, five banks closing simultaneously. This has more interest for Omaha, Kansas City and South St. Paul than for Minneapolis, as it touches grazing rather than grain-growing territory. (Wall St. Jour. Apr. 13.)

Cost of Farm Equipment

Implement and Tractor Trade Journal for April 9 contains an interesting table showing "Comparison of Cost of Wealth 'Producing' Farm Implement Equipment with cost of Wealth 'Reducing' Farm Equipment," the cost being based on prices to farmers at Topeka, Kan., March 25, 1921. This contribution is presented by a man who has "long studied the development of the farm equipment trade." He defines his terms by designating farm implements, tractors, etc., as "wealth-producing equipment," and the automobile as "wealth-reducing equipment." He finds that the annual cost of depreciation and upkeep on all motor cars owned by farmers in the single state of Kansas is $115,700,000. This amount, he figures, would equip 44,000 farms of 160 acres each with the "wealth-producing" farm equipment he suggests.

Cotton

1. Cotton must be warehoused under a uniform system, so that bankers may be able to pass judgment upon the paper. A receipt issued on cotton in the farthest corner of Texas should give the same security to the banker as one on cotton actually under his eyes in New Orleans or New York. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 13.)

2. The notable increase of cotton imports at Marseille during the last thirty years has led to a movement for the establishment of a cotton exchange in that city, which may be realized in the near future. The cotton imported into Marseille during 1920 amounted to 125,664 bales, compared with 108,800 bales for the preceding year. The bulk of these imports came from Egypt and British India. There were only occasional arrivals of American cotton, attributed partly to the fact that freight rates from the United States were generally much higher than those from competing countries. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 11.)

Feeding Stuffs

In a report submitted to the Senate April 12 the Federal Trade Commission declares that no indications have been found of any concerted action to advance prices of commercial feeds. It is stated that the increases in prices from 1918 to 1919 in commercial feeds corresponds to that of farm products in general. Prices of feeds dropped as much as 57 per cent between June and December of 1920. (N. Y. Commercial, Apr. 13.)

Foreign Trade

1. The National Council of American Importers and Traders was formally organized April 11 at New York. The purposes of the new organization will be to serve as a clearing house for the problems now confronting the various importing trades and to study all legislation and developments pertaining to imports. An object of the National Council will be to see that its members are properly protected by tariff legislation. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 13.)

Foreign Trade 2. Strenuous objection was raised to the importation of eggs from China by Prof. James Rice, of Cornell University, at the American Farm Bureau Federation conference yesterday. He claims that millions of dozens of eggs are being brought into this country annually, most of them dried or frozen, and at an inopportune time for the American market. (Press of April 14.)

French Census

Every new installment of census figures being now returned serves to show how enormously the population of France has decreased since 1911, when the last census was taken. Today the results show that three more departments have been canvassed and have recorded a loss of more than 470,000. The agricultural population shows the greatest decrease. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 13.)

Hides

Two cars of packer bull hides from a near-by station sold at 7 1/2 cents a pound, which was 2 cents above previous sales. One big packer has declined 1.6 cents for his accumulation of calf skins, and is holding for higher prices. Several small packers declined 8 cents for April hides. (Chicago corres., Wall St. Jour., Apr. 13.)

Livestock in New South Wales

"The Pastoral Industry's Great Need," in New South Wales, is the subject of an editorial in the Sydney Stock and Station Journal of March 1. It states that breeding stock is going to the butcher and being sold at prices that represent about one-third or one-fourth its potential value to the state, as owners are forced to sell to meet their bills and mortgages incurred in the drought. The biggest trouble is the slow sale of wool. Financial men are urged to help the grazier financially in order that he may hold on to his breeding stock and thereby aid the state.

New Zealand Crops

The season has been a fairly favorable one for agricultural interests in New Zealand, notwithstanding the yield per acre for wheat and oats fell somewhat below the yield last year. The wheat growers of New Zealand have asked the government to continue the guaranty that the price of wheat for the next season shall be the same as that paid during the present season, namely, $1.76 a bushel for Tuscan, $1.82 for Hunters, and $1.88 for Pearl wheat. If the guaranty is not forthcoming, growers say it is not likely the same acreage will be sown this year as last. The New Zealand government still proposes to control the wheat distribution in the future. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 11.)

Research

The work of the Experiment and Research Bureaus of the Directorate of Agriculture of Tunis, which was interrupted by the war, has been reorganized and the equipment completed. The Botanical service and the station and laboratories of the Colonial School of Agriculture are ready to give decisions on plants and animal and vegetable parasites of crops and to give written or verbal consultations on methods of combating them. (Bul. Mensuel de l'Office du Protectorat Francais en Tunisie, February.)

Rope

The manufacture of fiber from sisal hemp is proceeding in Jamaica. Factories are being erected with big importations of machinery for rope making. The fiber produced is said to be as good as any produced in any part of the world. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 14.)

Russian Crops

Figures on cotton, grain, and oilseed crops harvested in Soviet Russia in 1920, together with farinas and bran products, up to Dec. 20, 1920, are republished in English from Ekonomicheskaya Zhizn, for Jan. 14 and 19, in Commerce Reports, April 11. According to this report the area in Turkestan under cotton cultivation has decreased 270,000 acres since 1913 and 1914. The report also states that out of 260 nationalized cotton-cleaning factories in Turkestan only 25 are likely to continue work.

Spanish Duties on Wheat and Flour

A Spanish royal decree, published and effective April 7, restores the former import duty of 8 pesetas per 100 kilos on wheat and 14 pesetas per 100 kilos on wheat flour.
(Commerce Reports, Apr. 11.)

Tariff

1. A statement of the attitude of the American Importers and Exporters' Association as to pending tariff legislation says in part: "While the Fordney bill is intended as a temporary measure, its enactment would be a declaration of commercial war that will have a far-reaching effect on our foreign trade relations, since it must of necessity foreshadow the character of the permanent legislation to follow. *** As the productive capacity of our farms, mills and factories is greatly in excess of our domestic consuming power, it is an absolute necessity to maintain our export trade and to develop constantly new markets. *** Any increase in the present duties on raw materials or farm products will, naturally, curtail or even entirely prevent their entry into this country and will lessen correspondingly the ability of foreign producing countries to buy from us in exchange therefor." (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 13.)

2. A protective tariff will provide no panacea for the nation's industrial ills, George E. Roberts, Vice President of the National City Bank of New York, says in the current issue of The Americas. Mr. Roberts argues that the raising of a tariff wall would cut off the overseas market for American goods and that the net result of the tariff would be to raise prices to the domestic consumer and make cost of production so high that in competitive markets the manufacturers of this country would find themselves underbid.

3. The almost daily conflict of reports from Washington in respect to the date on which the new Congress will take up the tariff question is causing an unsettled condition in the wool trade.
(Wall St. Jour., Apr. 13.)

Tobacco

There is a great deal of very poor tobacco that would hardly sell for over a cent a pound in Lancaster and Chester counties, Pa., and it would pay the farmer to use it as a fertilizer rather than sell at such low figures. It is estimated that there are fully 12,000,000 pounds of very poor tobacco yet unsold in those two counties.
(Phila. Public Ledger, Apr. 13.)

Trade

Despite the slump in business toward the close of last year, the International Harvester Company in 1920 did the largest business in its history. Sales aggregated $225,000,000, compared with $212,000,000 in 1919 and $204,000,000 in 1918.
(Cont'd on page 5.)

Trade (Cont'd) Machine selling prices in 1920 showed an average increase of about 60 per cent above prewar prices, and repair parts showed an average increase of only 40 per cent.
(From review of annual report, in N.Y.Times, Apr. 14.)

Trade Relations The Canadian House of Commons April 13 defeated a motion recommending the adoption at this time of the reciprocity agreement between Canada and the United States, which was signed at Washington, Jan. 21, 1911, Sir Henry Drayton, Minister of Finance, declaring that to try to put through the reciprocity pact at present might resemble sharp practice. (Press of Apr. 14.)

Transportation Western wool can be shipped to Boston via San Francisco and the Panama Canal and save $59 a carload, according to Prof. F.R. Marshall, Secretary of the National Wool Growers' Association. A petition has been sent to the Interstate Commerce Commission for reduction of one-third in wool freight rates. (Wall St. Jour. Apr. 12.)

Wheat 1. The April crop report issued by the Missouri state board of agriculture gives promise of a great crop of wheat. The present condition of wheat is stated to be 98 per cent as compared with 70 per cent a year ago and 103 per cent as compared with the crop of two years ago. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 12.)

2. "Give us dollar wheat and a ready market and we will make more clear money this year than we did last with wheat at $2.30." This is the verdict reached by more than 400 farmers at a recent meeting in the wheat belt of eastern Colorado, according to Western Grain Journal, Apr. 7.

Wool There were 7,875 bales offered at the London wool sales on April 12. Prices were unchanged, but the demand was better. Most of the purchases were made by continental buyers. (N.Y. Times,Apr.13)

Select List of Books Added to Library

Black's gardening dictionary, ed. by E.T. Ellis. London, 1921.
Bornemann, Felix. Die wichtigsten landwirtschaftlichen Unkräuter. Ed. 2. 1920.
Eckstein, Fritz. Die einheimischen Stechmücken. 1920.
Federal reserve bank of Minneapolis. The federal reserve bank and the farmer and stockman. 1921.
Gt. Britain. Legation. Rumania. Report on the economic conditions and prospects of Rumania at the close of the year 1919, by Alexander Adams. 1920.
Klemm, Paul. Papier-Industrie-Kalender. v. 24, 1920.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news particularly of an economic character bearing upon the work of the Department, as obtained from the Library's daily accessions.

Prepared in the Library of the Department with the cooperation of the Director of Information Office of the Secretary) and of the Bureaus.

Vol. 1, no. 20. April 15, 1921.

The Secretary of the Treasury will announce tomorrow the forthcoming issue of Farm Loan bonds. The amount of the issue will be between $40,000,000 and $60,000,000, with interest at 5 per cent. The forthcoming issue will be the first bond offering by the Board since the legality of farm loan securities was attacked more than a year ago and later sustained by the Supreme Court. (Press of April 15.)

National agreements defining working conditions for employees on all American railroads formerly under the federal Railroad Administration were yesterday ordered abrogated, effective July 1, 1921, by the United States Railroad Labor Board. (Press of April 15.)

Basing its action upon the recent reduction in steel prices announced by the United States Steel Corporation, the International Harvester Company April 14 announced a straight 10 per cent reduction on products in which steel is the principal raw material. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 15.)

For the first time in almost seven years, flour sold under $8 a barrel at the mills at Minneapolis April 14. (Press of April 15.)

As one result of his conference with New Orleans financial interests, Eugene Meyers, Jr., managing director of the War Financing Corporation, mentioned an application for $2,000,000 from an export financing corporation, involving the export of 30,000 bales of cotton to England, France, Italy, Portugal, Japan and Germany, which was approved April 13 by the directors of the War Finance Corporation. (Philadelphia Public Ledger, Apr. 14.)

A plan to take advantage of allied debts to the United States in providing means to dispose of the southern cotton crop was suggested to President Harding yesterday by Governor-elect Hardwick, of Georgia. He proposes that the United States ask the allied governments to underwrite German bonds to be accepted in payment of cotton exports and held as securities against the war debt. (Press of April 15.)

Advertising

The members of the Belmont County, Ohio, Jersey Cattle Club propose to advertise their cattle, and to do it they have donated 41 pure bred Jersey heifers to be sold at auction this month, the proceeds to be devoted to advertising. (National Stockman and Farmer, Apr. 16.)

Alcohol

Experiments as to the utility of alcohol extracted from sugar cane as fuel are being carried on in British Guiana. The results of the experiment have not yet been made public in detail but available information indicates that favorable results have been had. (Extract from January 1921 Report on Commerce and Industries, Georgetown, British Guiana. Consular report.)

Cotton

1. Plans have been inaugurated to form the Georgia cotton raisers into a Georgia Cotton Growers' Association, having for its sole purpose the orderly marketing of cotton. The movement followed an address delivered at the State Capitol April 12 by Aaron Sapiro, author of the California plan of marketing. Organization of the Association will be perfected by a preliminary organization known as the Georgia Cotton Producers' Organizing Association, which will push the organization of the Cooperative Marketing Association in a vigorous campaign in which all interests in Georgia will be asked to unite.
(Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 14.)

2. "Civilized life without cotton would be only a little less impossible than without food, and the production of this fundamental of life, particularly in America, is reaching such a stage that, notwithstanding the large carry-over of this year, leading authorities fear a cotton shortage in the near future. Unless a system of warehousing is adopted permitting of adequate financing of the crop, such a world calamity is not unlikely."
(From editorial in Wall St. Jour., Apr. 14.)

3. The general situation in the Lancashire cotton trade did not improve during February. The British Board of Trade returns for the month show a considerable fall in the value of both imports and exports from the corresponding totals of a year ago. An analysis of the official figures discloses that the imports of raw cotton and cotton waste into the United Kingdom during February decreased by 225,207,300 pounds in quantity and $192,309,841 (at normal exchange) in value. On the export side it is noted that cotton yearn and twist are reduced in quantity by 3,377,000 pounds, and in value by $5,748,607, equal to 28.3 and 35.4, respectively.
(Commerce Reports, Apr. 12.)

4. Great Britain has been making great strides in the production of cotton, with the result that the position of the United States as the dominant factor in the world's cotton situation now is threatened by that country through the progress that has been made in fostering cotton production within the British Empire, according to the Journal of Commerce for April 14. Plans have been made by British interests, it is reported to the Department of Commerce by the commercial attache at London, to use India and 3,000,000 acres south of Khartoum in Egypt, which after irrigation will be suitable for cotton growing purposes. Mesopotamia, the Uganda Protectorate in Africa and German East Africa, which are now mandate territories under British control, are declared to be natural cotton producing areas.

Dairying in New Zealand

Notwithstanding the general business depression in New Zealand during the last six months the dairy interests of the country have enjoyed the most prosperous period in the history of the industry, for the reason that the British Imperial Government renewed its contract with the dairy people at a large advance over the prices paid during the war. The war price was 39 cents (at normal exchange) a pound for butter, and the price paid until the end of March, 1921, was 61 cents. (Commerce Reports, Apr. 12.)

Foreign Trade

1. The exchange of raw wool for the huge textile stocks now in bond at Buenos Aires was among the radical measures proposed April 13 at a meeting of the Argentine Confederation of Industry, Commerce and Production, called to consider the critical situation caused by the impossibility of exporting raw materials while the national industries are crippled by the overburdening of commerce with heavy stocks of foreign merchandise. (N.Y. Daily News Record, Apr. 14.)

2. A report of the trade of Greece in vegetable oils and vegetable-oil material during 1916, 1917, and 1918 is given in Commerce Reports for April 12. This compilation of the Division of Research of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce is one of a series giving figures on the trade in vegetable oils for the three latest years for which statistics are available from the countries that give statistics for these commodities in their trade reports.

Fruit Marketing

At the recent Chicago meeting of fruit growers, New York representatives brought out the fact that last year $8,000,000 were paid out for grape juice, also that pasteurized cider is to play an important part in disposing of the apple crop of the future. (American Agriculturist, Apr. 16.)

Grain

Critical situation in the labor situation abroad, combined with the late weakness in stocks were disturbing factors in the grain and business situation and made for lower prices than at any time this season and in recent years. (Chicago report to Wash. Herald, Apr.15.)

Immigrant Farmers

"Mr. Husband should submit his scheme to Secretary Wallace," according to an editorial in American Agriculturist for April 16, which states further: "Commissioner Husband says there are uncounted thousands of acres of land to be used as soon as the government reclaims them. *** Needless to say, students of the agricultural problem of this country, faced now with the spectacle of insufficient return in agriculture to keep our own people on the land and the decadence of our country life through tenancy and lowered standards, do not approve the scheme. Unless a slave or peonage system is contemplated, the immigrants just won't stay on the land without profits any more than Americans will."

Lumber

Vancouver, B.C., advices state that a further reduction in the price of lumber has been arranged by the British Columbia saw mills. In consequence of this additional fall, prices are now so low that the larger mills will not operate unless they are filling special orders or cutting for export. The effect of the reduction of the market, therefore, is uncertain. (Journal of Commerce, Apr. 14.)

Metric System

The Japanese government has just passed a law making the use of the metric system obligatory in the Japanese Empire. (Bulletin des Halles, March 30.)

Sugar

1. Arrangements for assisting in financing the Cuban sugar crop were completed April 15, when it was announced that a banking syndicate, headed by the Guaranty Trust Company, the National City Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada, had agreed to create a six months' open credit of not to exceed $20,000,000 for the Sugar Financing and Export Company, which has just been formed for the purpose of making advances to Cuban sugar growers and manufacturers. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 15.)

2. A financial and export sugar commission has been organized with $2,000,000 capital subscribed wholly by the Cuban-American Sugar Company and affiliation, together with Cuba Cane and Czarnikow, Rionda and Co., and negotiations have been completed for a $20,000,000 loan for advances on sugar at $8 a bag. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 14.)

3. Sugar planters in Louisiana state that labor is much more plentiful this spring than it has been at any time during the past three years and is to be had at wages which assure the making this year's crop on a basis that will yield sufficient profit, if yield comes up to expectations, to make up for some of the losses of last season. There has been a large increase in the cane acreage this year, especially in those sections which heretofore have planted both cane and rice. (Facts About Sugar, Apr. 9.)

4. Acreage of sugar cane harvested in the Hawaiian Islands was larger by 14.7 per cent in 1919 than in 1910, and the value of the crop was $88,000,000 in 1919 as compared with $48,000,000 in 1910. A proposition to join with the Oahu Sugar Company in building a central power plant, to cost $1,400,000, is being considered by the directors of the Ewa Plantation Company. (Facts About Sugar, Apr. 9.)

5. "Despite the testimony of technical experts of the highest authority and despite the practical tests afforded by the daily experiences of millions of users, the belief that there is a distinguishable difference between sugar from beets and that from cane dies hard," says an editorial in Facts About Sugar for April 9, which endeavors to prove its argument by the citation of tests made in this connection.

Tariff

With an adequate protective tariff the olive industry of this country in a few years would become self-supporting and capable of supplying the entire domestic demand both for the oil and the fruit, according to statements of U. S. Representatives Curry and Osborne.

In a brief filed with the Ways and Means Committee, the California Olive Association said the American olive industry could not expand if compelled to compete with cheap Mediterranean labor, and with ocean rates that will permit the landing of olives and olive oil at New York at less cost than the same product can be transported from California by the railroads. (Wash. Herald, Apr. 15.)

Transportation General agreement of eatern and western railroads that present reconsignment rules on fruits and vegetables should stand until January 1, 1922, was expressed April 14 at an Interstate Commerce Commission hearing. Southern roads previously had indicated their opposition to changes that would prevent unlimited reconsignment. California shippers objected to any changes. (Wash. Post, Apr. 15.)

Wheat in Spain The Spanish Association of Agriculturists issued a manifesto to the farmers April 14 requesting them to sell their wheat now instead of awaiting an increase in the price as a consequence of reapplication of the import duties on wheat. (N. Y. Times, Apr. 15.)

Wool

1. Dispatches from Adelaide, South Australia, state that a leading Australian wool grower, buyer and manufacturer has given out a statement severely criticising the British Australian Wool Realization Association and advocating independent action by the wool growers, in default of which, he says, the latter will be faced with failure. He states that in attempting to dictate wool prices to upward of 80 per cent of the world's growers the association has shown exceedingly bad judgment and that the organization must be abandoned. (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 14.)

2. "Not a few woolen houses in London that have never before sent a direct representative to American are now doing so. It has got abroad that America is, for the moment, a promising market. *** The signing of the agreement with Russia no longer raises the hopes of the wool textile manufacturers or warehousemen. The fact is that thos manufacturers who accepted contracts from Russia have been very greatly disappointed over them, for the money which they thought would be forthcoming is conspicuous by its absence." (London corres. to N.Y.Daily News Record, Apr. 14.)

Department of Agriculture

1. "While the public utterances of Secretary of Agriculture Wallace on the economic situation have been marked by logic and wisdom, his recent statement that the farmer must have equal protection with the manufacturer and other industrial interests in any tariff policy or concession in railroad rates, in order to bring about real financial stability and normal and prosperous business conditions, again hits the nail on the head squarely." (Western Farmer, Apr. 1.)

2. "Last week Secretary Wallace told the grain marketing conference at Chicago that the 'creation of a monopoly, whether in grains or any other necessaries of life, is morally and legally wrong, and any effort either to create a monopoly or arbitrarily to fix prices will result in absolute and costly failure.' He deserves much credit for speaking so plainly to a body composed in part of men who believe in attempting to fix prices by control of the product." (National Stockman and Farmer, Apr. 16.)

Select List of New Books Added to Library

Arndt, Kurt. Die Bedeutung der Kolloide für die Technik. Ed. 3. 1920.

Chemical alliance, inc. Historial review of the object, organization and activities of the Chemical Alliance, Inc., during the world war, 1917-19. 1920?

Grain dealers' national association. Decisions of the Arbitration and Appeals committees, from the first decision in 1902, until 1920. v. 1, 1920.
